

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.

MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

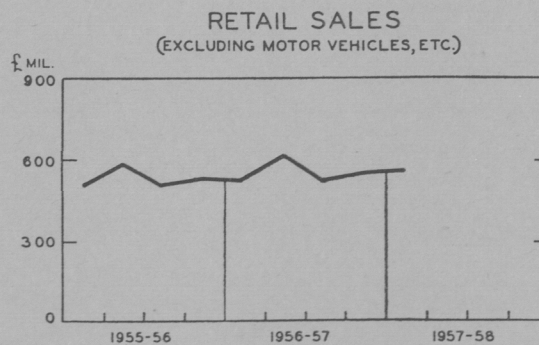
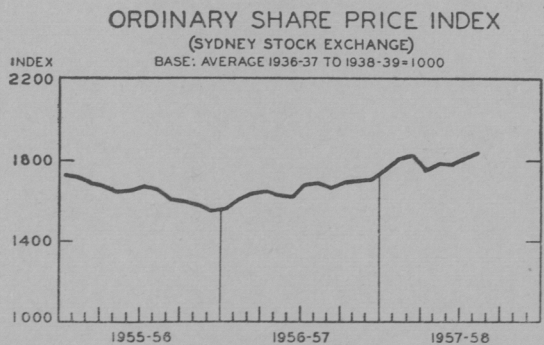
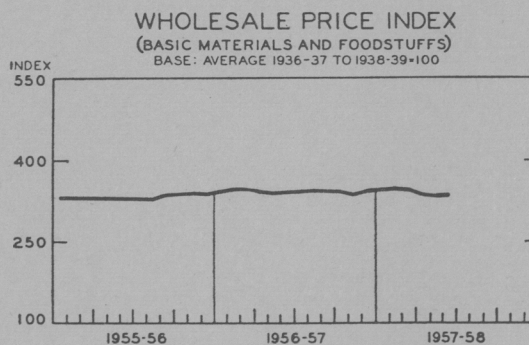
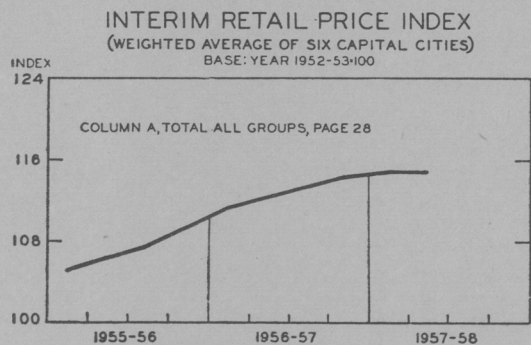
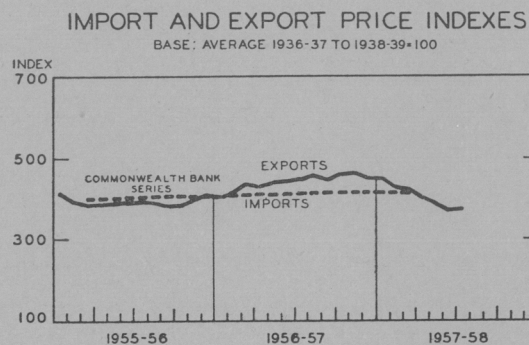
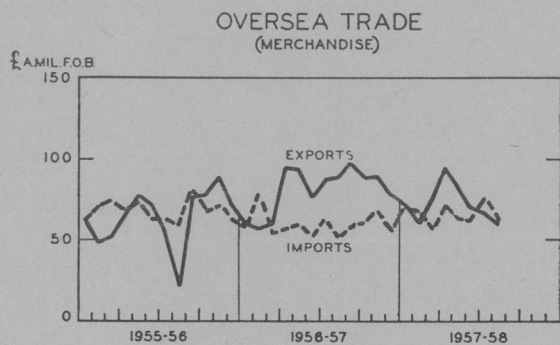
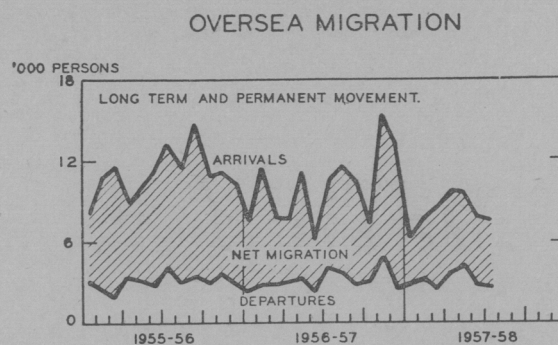
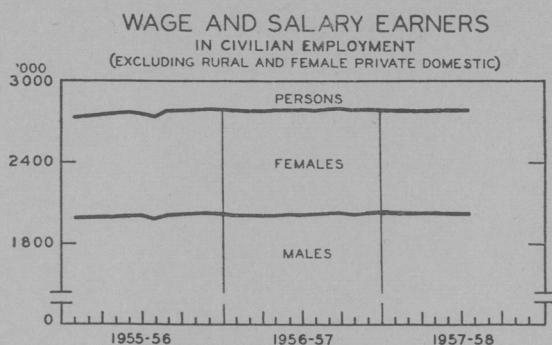
FEBRUARY, 1958.

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PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE TREASURER

BY

S. R. CARVER,
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.



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Preliminary—figure or series subject to revision.

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— Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

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INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following page summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein:—

Period.	Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment (Excluding Rural and female private domestic). —End of Month. (a)			Average Weekly Wage Earnings (b) Index (Base: 1945-46=1,000).	Internal Trade.		Oversea Trade (Merchandise only—Values f.o.b. port of Shipment).		Building Permits(e) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	New Houses and Flats Commenced.(f)
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Wholesale.(c)	Retail.(d)	Imports.	Exports.		
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.		£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£'000.	No.
1936-37 ..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	37.2	n.a.	8.6	12.3	1,986	n.a.
1937-38 ..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.5	n.a.	10.6	11.7	2,307	n.a.
1938-39 ..	(g)1,293	(g)437	(g)1,730	n.a.	39.8	n.a.	9.4	10.1	2,353	n.a.
1950-51 ..	1,882	707	2,589	1,742	140.5	342.7	61.8	81.6	10,426	(h)20,988
1951-52 ..	1,915	709	2,624	2,145	162.1	404.0	87.5	55.4	9,700	(h)20,231
1952-53 ..	1,876	670	2,546	2,350	158.1	425.5	42.5	70.7	10,045	(h)16,152
1953-54 ..	1,914	695	2,609	2,462	179.5	460.2	56.5	67.7	12,356	(h)19,221
1954-55 ..	1,971	727	2,698	2,572	205.5	r504.9	70.1	63.2	17,920	19,309
1955-56 ..	2,012	753	2,765	2,743	221.3	r541.6	68.2	64.2	18,892	18,155
1956-57 ..	2,023	762	2,785	2,899	233.2	r563.7	59.7	81.1	17,427	17,363
Monthly Total—										
1955-56—										
January ..	(i)1,991	752	(i)2,743	2,749	178.8	r514.2	(i)63.4	(i)55.4	14,653	17,469
February ..	2,019	759	2,778		208.1		(i)59.1	(i)20.0	18,736	
March ..	2,020	762	2,782	2,801	234.1	r541.7	(i)80.5	(i)77.5	20,327	16,660
April ..	2,026	760	2,786		217.8		68.0	(i)78.0	17,755	
May ..	2,028	761	2,789	2,801	235.4		71.6	(i)89.9	22,286	16,660
June ..	2,026	759	2,785		223.7		63.4	(i)72.9	18,133	
1956-57—										
July ..	2,022	758	2,780	2,863	210.3	r533.8	57.3	60.9	18,873	16,841
August ..	2,020	756	2,776		237.6		78.8	57.3	18,047	
September ..	2,020	757	2,777	2,903	229.5	r620.6	53.7	60.1	15,736	16,994
October ..	2,018	759	2,777		254.7		57.1	95.3	19,351	
November ..	2,027	765	2,792	2,903	259.9	r620.6	59.7	93.6	18,264	16,994
December ..	2,022	764	2,786		235.2		52.1	76.0	12,093	
January ..	2,018	759	2,777	2,910	209.2	r535.2	62.6	87.6	15,400	17,133
February ..	2,026	767	2,793		224.9		51.1	89.3	16,433	
March ..	2,029	769	2,798	2,921	233.4	r565.0	58.6	97.4	17,932	18,485
April ..	2,022	765	2,787		227.8		60.8	87.2	16,263	
May ..	2,026	765	2,791	2,921	252.9		69.1	90.7	21,340	18,485
June ..	2,027	762	2,789		222.7		55.9	78.1	19,392	
1957-58—										
July ..	2,022	762	2,784	2,975	235.3	r564.0	p70.6	p70.6	20,099	18,920
August ..	2,018	762	2,780		235.4		67.9	58.5	21,367	
September ..	2,022	765	2,787	2,996	254.7	r655.2	56.9	75.8	19,789	17,048
October ..	2,023	768	2,791		267.4		71.9	94.1	18,779	
November ..	2,022	775	2,797	2,996	r266.8		64.3	83.2	17,378	17,048
December ..	2,021	774	2,795		p252.5		61.8	r70.3	13,469	
January ..	2,026	772	2,798				77.2	66.8	19,659	
February ..							62.5	60.2	17,001	

(a) Excludes Defence Forces at home or abroad and National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1950-51 subject to revision.
 (b) Seasonally adjusted. Average earnings per employed male unit. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings.
 (c) Net sales recorded under Sales Tax Acts.
 (d) Quarterly average sales for years and quarterly total sales. Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. Excludes Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.
 (e) All building operations for which permits granted by local government authorities. Excludes Government buildings (see note (a) page 33).
 (f) Includes owner-built houses. Quarterly averages for years, and quarterly totals. From September quarter, 1954, includes Northern Territory.
 (g) July, 1939: obtained from National Register.
 (h) Partly estimated.
 (i) Affected by industrial disputes.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—continued.

Period.	Production of Black Coal.	Total Electricity Generated.	Production of Ingot Steel.	New Motor Vehicles Registered (a) (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Government Railways : Gross Revenue.	P.M.G.'s Department Cash Receipts.	Private Trading Banks. (b)		Bank Debts to Customers' Accounts (Weekly Averages).
				Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles, etc.			Deposits.	Advances.	
Monthly Average—	'000 tons.	Million kWh	'000 tons.	'000.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1936-37 ..	977	331	90.0	4.0	2.0	3,517	1,318	297.6	262.5	n.a.
1937-38 ..	990	363	97.2	4.6	2.3	3,705	1,396	314.8	274.4	n.a.
1938-39 ..	1,051	391	97.5	4.5	2.1	3,662	1,447	317.7	288.1	n.a.
1949-50 ..	1,243	792	101.5	9.6	4.8	7,683	3,196	910.1	403.9	271.1
1950-51 ..	1,368	875	120.3	10.7	6.5	8,804	3,732	1,144.2	479.3	372.9
1951-52 ..	1,598	941	126.8	10.5	6.1	11,626	4,948	1,201.7	621.4	402.4
1952-53 ..	1,545	1,004	150.1	7.8	4.3	12,903	5,367	1,162.4	638.1	389.3
1953-54 ..	1,619	1,142	176.4	10.5	4.8	14,155	5,650	1,275.5	658.5	446.5
1954-55 ..	1,613	1,264	184.1	13.9	5.6	14,498	6,069	1,310.7	776.8	491.6
1955-56 ..	1,586	1,399	193.4	13.6	5.8	14,765	6,612	1,295.4	804.4	521.4
1956-57 ..	p1,641	p1,531	p237.8	12.5	4.9	15,674	7,519	1,328.0	762.6	562.7
Monthly Total—										
1955-56—						(c)				
February	1,447	1,299	189.1	12.3	5.3	13,521	6,285	1,331.9	773.7	501.5
March ..	1,479	1,389	198.6	14.2	5.6	14,790	6,802	1,334.4	776.2	526.9
April ..	1,547	1,356	184.0	11.0	5.0	14,151	6,117	1,321.5	786.8	522.4
May ..	1,774	1,545	214.6	12.2	6.2	15,547	7,352	1,277.8	798.4	561.4
June ..	1,691	1,565	217.0	11.7	5.3	15,541	7,422	1,260.4	793.9	525.3
1956-57—	p	p	p							
July ..	1,852	1,655	230.3	11.8	5.4	15,227	6,743	1,243.4	797.7	541.7
August ..	1,930	1,652	206.6	13.7	5.2	16,806	6,716	1,234.4	787.0	482.1
September ..	1,703	1,500	228.6	11.5	4.5	16,094	6,455	1,248.5	778.5	526.1
October ..	1,901	1,538	226.5	13.4	5.5	17,497	8,110	1,281.5	780.2	562.2
November	1,837	1,486	247.7	14.1	5.6	16,712	7,225	1,311.4	771.2	571.2
December	1,271	1,394	247.0	12.0	4.4	14,552	7,611	1,340.6	762.2	589.6
January ..	1,087	1,410	260.4	10.9	3.9	15,027	7,073	1,362.5	744.9	531.0
February	1,625	1,388	237.5	12.1	3.3	14,585	7,312	1,390.9	732.5	590.7
March ..	1,612	1,543	254.5	12.1	5.3	15,347	8,020	1,416.3	725.5	597.1
April ..	1,530	1,502	246.9	11.3	4.7	15,220	7,539	1,395.0	743.5	593.9
May ..	1,774	1,693	250.5	14.6	5.8	16,569	8,457	1,368.7	757.3	597.2
June ..	1,579	1,616	246.8	12.3	5.3	14,454	8,962	1,362.1	766.2	588.8
1957-58—										
July ..	1,913	1,817	264.2	13.0	5.3	15,703	7,423	1,349.6	770.5	600.7
August ..	1,845	1,773	271.7	11.9	5.4	15,763	7,532	1,331.9	762.0	527.5
September	1,824	1,641	261.5	13.4	5.4	15,810	7,503	1,342.2	756.1	577.0
October ..	1,904	1,666	263.9	15.3	6.1	16,484	8,563	1,385.5	765.5	603.3
November	1,795	1,584	246.4	r14.6	r5.8	15,176	7,510	1,406.6	772.0	608.3
December	1,293	1,530	250.9	r14.8	r5.4		8,623	1,431.7	766.3	667.5
January ..		1,519	269.9	11.3	4.9		8,469	1,445.7	753.4	512.7
February			232.6	12.3	5.8		7,664	1,443.6	749.6	587.6

(a) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39.
 (b) Until December, 1946, averages of deposits and advances on Mondays in period; thereafter on Wednesdays. (c) Prepared from monthly railway returns and not strictly comparable with annual figures above which include certain details not available on a monthly basis.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.(a)	Net Oversea Migration.(b)	Total Increase.(c)	Population at end of Period.
Quarterly Average—							
1947-48	19,008	44,252	18,876	25,376	7,341	(d) 32,351	7,708,761
1948-49	18,498	44,149	19,041	25,108	25,287	(d) 49,826	7,908,066
1949-50	18,558	47,048	19,001	28,047	40,387	(d) 67,657	8,178,696
1950-51	19,211	48,114	19,896	28,218	33,244	(d) 60,770	8,421,775
1951-52	18,896	49,228	20,661	28,567	25,720	(d) 53,671	8,636,458
1952-53	17,870	50,739	20,023	30,716	14,516	(d) 44,726	8,815,362
1953-54	17,827	50,400	20,390	30,010	13,263	(d) 42,792	e 8,986,530
1954-55	17,848	51,213	20,541	30,672	22,868	53,540	9,200,691
1955-56	18,169	52,719	20,712	32,007	24,710	56,717	9,427,558
1956-57	18,111	53,753	21,467	32,286	21,594	53,880	9,643,079
Quarterly Total—							
1954-55—							
December Qtr. ..	19,664	51,162	19,091	32,071	28,883	60,954	9,090,395
March	17,705	51,318	17,680	33,638	25,101	58,739	9,149,134
June	18,924	51,600	20,723	30,877	20,680	51,557	9,200,691
1955-56—							
September	15,449	53,714	24,209	29,505	25,853	55,358	9,256,049
December	20,094	51,045	19,424	31,621	25,621	57,242	9,313,291
March	18,680	52,614	18,073	34,541	29,421	63,962	9,377,253
June	18,453	53,502	21,140	32,362	17,943	50,305	9,427,558
1956-57—							
September	15,328	53,698	26,511	27,187	24,446	51,633	9,479,191
December	19,319	52,319	20,364	31,955	22,188	54,143	9,533,334
March	18,825	55,546	18,641	36,905	21,198	58,103	9,591,437
June	18,971	53,450	20,353	33,097	18,545	51,642	9,643,079
1957-58—							
September	16,050	56,008	25,695	30,313	16,547	46,860	9,689,939
December	19,850	55,354	20,264	35,090	22,442	57,532	9,747,471

(a) Excess of births over deaths. (b) Excess of arrivals over departures. (c) Includes natural increase and net overseas migration. (d) Includes adjustments of population between July, 1933 and June, 1954, on the basis of Census results. (e) Census 30th June.

POPULATION : STATES.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
30th June—									
1948 ..	3,015,763	2,092,320	1,131,200	661,153	515,074	261,206	12,254	19,791	7,708,761
1949 ..	3,092,621	2,142,986	1,159,124	679,305	532,191	267,062	13,391	21,386	7,908,066
1950 ..	3,193,372	2,208,078	1,196,185	709,547	557,096	275,902	14,692	23,824	8,178,696
1951 ..	3,278,032	2,276,575	1,227,701	732,430	580,343	286,193	15,609	24,892	8,421,775
1952 ..	3,339,455	2,344,491	1,259,478	755,053	599,858	296,299	15,464	26,360	8,636,458
1953 ..	3,383,792	2,395,254	1,291,410	775,781	620,547	304,080	15,853	28,645	8,815,362
1954 (a) ..	3,423,529	2,452,341	1,318,259	797,094	639,771	308,752	16,469	30,315	8,986,530
1955 ..	3,490,331	2,523,018	1,344,572	819,549	658,538	314,679	17,580	b 32,424	9,200,691
1956 ..	3,553,432	2,605,088	1,370,697	848,526	677,389	319,648	18,297	b 34,481	9,427,558
1957 ..	3,622,906	2,673,498	1,396,740	873,123	691,882	327,895	19,170	c 37,865	9,643,079
31st December—									
1957 ..	3,660,497	2,700,635	1,401,427	886,203	700,214	340,866	18,515	39,114	9,747,471

(a) Census. (b) Revised estimates based on the results of the June, 1957. Population Count of Canberra are as follows :— 1955, 32,750; 1956, 35,135. (c) Estimate based on the June, 1957, Population Count of Canberra.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

"Long term and permanent movement" relates to persons other than Australian troops who state they intend to reside for one year or longer—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. "Short term movement" relates to persons who intend residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops from July, 1947 onwards, irrespective of length of intended residence.

Period.	Short Term Movement.				Long Term and Permanent Movement.		
	Australian Residents.		Visitors from Overseas.		Arrivals.	Departures.	Excess of Arrivals.
	Returning.	Departing.	Arriving.	Departing.			
Monthly Average—							
1947-48	2,238	1,981	1,729	1,897	3,881	1,523	2,358
1948-49	2,007	1,898	2,829	2,566	9,568	1,511	8,057
1949-50	2,336	2,500	3,470	3,644	15,407	1,608	13,799
1950-51	2,812	2,617	3,594	3,753	12,774	1,729	11,045
1951-52	3,251	3,233	3,895	4,085	10,872	2,126	8,746
1952-53	3,351	3,427	3,838	4,198	7,991	2,717	5,274
1953-54	3,648	3,556	3,953	3,906	7,206	2,924	4,282
1954-55	4,107	4,013	4,277	4,220	10,348	2,877	7,471
1955-56	4,719	4,469	4,608	4,515	11,052	3,159	7,893
1956-57	4,604	4,162	5,532	5,617	10,050	3,209	6,841
Monthly Total—							
1955-56—							
January	6,201	4,828	5,703	5,468	13,328	4,227	9,101
February	4,549	4,936	5,294	4,826	11,436	3,004	8,432
March	4,942	6,316	5,430	5,109	14,843	3,591	11,252
April	4,431	5,500	4,252	4,863	10,913	2,983	7,930
May	3,937	6,315	4,771	4,923	11,057	3,844	7,213
June	3,687	3,559	3,405	3,929	10,393	2,987	7,406
1956-57—							
July	2,964	2,909	3,444	3,371	7,551	2,425	5,126
August	4,899	3,167	4,068	4,000	11,353	2,858	8,495
September	5,634	2,568	4,516	3,703	7,917	2,899	5,018
October	5,291	2,761	5,246	4,535	7,749	3,098	4,651
November	5,540	4,462	14,286	6,080	11,063	3,372	7,691
December	5,533	4,079	5,603	13,526	6,219	2,429	3,790
January	5,347	4,437	5,333	6,432	10,731	4,143	6,588
February	4,787	5,010	5,557	5,639	11,577	3,740	7,837
March	4,203	5,007	5,674	5,315	10,601	2,889	7,712
April	3,853	6,206	4,311	5,443	7,409	3,192	4,217
May	3,870	5,792	4,530	5,626	15,378	4,881	10,497
June	3,331	3,545	3,815	3,738	13,053	2,582	10,471
1957-58—							
July	3,901	3,531	3,728	3,949	6,310	3,040	3,270
August	4,424	3,531	4,423	4,118	7,811	3,333	4,478
September	5,028	3,875	4,394	4,045	8,589	2,639	5,950
October	6,142	3,156	4,926	4,265	9,823	3,659	6,164
November	5,866	3,811	5,135	6,260	9,679	4,154	5,525
December	5,265	5,537	6,790	5,255	7,734	2,821	4,913
January							

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT.(a)

('000.)

Month.	Total Civilian Employees. (Excluding Rural and Female Private Domestic.)			Total Civilian Employees in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(b)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarry- ing.	Fac- tories. (c)	Build- ing and Con- struction.	Transport and Communi- cation.	Retail Trade.	Other Com- merce and Finance.	Pro- fessional and Personal Services. (d)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7		133.6
1955—June ..	599.1	1,401.4	2,000.5	58.3	714.5	211.8	308.7	129.2	207.1	182.1
1956—June ..	604.9	1,421.0	2,025.9	57.3	722.2	214.6	310.4	129.9	212.7	187.2
1957—June ..	609.5	1,416.9	2,026.4	56.3	722.3	207.3	313.0	129.4	214.0	193.0
1956—October ..	601.6	1,416.5	2,018.1	57.5	716.9	211.0	311.2	129.2	212.2	189.5
November..	602.6	1,424.7	2,027.3	57.3	719.3	212.0	311.7	131.9	214.1	190.5
December ..	602.5	1,420.1	2,022.6	57.2	715.3	210.2	310.2	134.8	214.1	190.3
1957—January ..	602.1	1,415.4	2,017.5	56.8	715.0	209.3	310.5	130.2	215.0	190.0
October ..	608.9	1,413.9	2,022.8	54.3	724.3	202.1	309.2	130.8	216.3	193.9
November..	608.0	1,413.9	2,021.9	53.9	724.5	199.4	307.3	134.0	216.6	194.0
December ..	609.0	1,412.5	2,021.5	53.6	722.0	197.1	307.9	136.2	216.9	195.0
1958—January ..	611.9	1,414.2	2,026.1	53.3	726.0	198.5	310.2	133.1	217.0	194.4
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9		129.0
1955—June ..	122.8	615.7	738.5	1.1	225.3	4.9	38.4	121.6	83.1	228.1
1956—June ..	129.8	629.1	758.9	1.2	228.3	5.1	40.1	122.9	88.1	236.5
1957—June ..	132.8	629.6	762.4	1.2	225.6	5.3	40.1	121.3	90.3	241.8
1956—October ..	129.3	630.0	759.3	1.2	227.1	5.1	40.1	122.2	87.9	238.9
November..	129.6	635.9	765.5	1.2	227.4	5.2	40.7	126.5	88.0	239.9
December ..	128.4	635.4	763.8	1.2	224.8	5.2	39.9	130.0	88.0	238.2
1957—January ..	128.1	630.6	758.7	1.2	226.0	5.2	40.2	122.9	89.5	237.0
October ..	133.0	635.2	768.2	1.2	227.4	5.3	39.9	123.9	90.3	243.0
November..	133.1	641.9	775.0	1.2	227.8	5.3	40.2	129.9	90.4	243.0
December ..	132.1	641.8	773.9	1.1	226.3	5.3	39.6	131.2	90.5	242.8
1958—January ..	132.7	639.1	771.8	1.1	227.8	5.4	40.2	125.5	91.7	242.7
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6		262.6
1955—June ..	721.9	2,017.1	2,739.0	59.4	939.8	216.7	347.1	250.8	290.2	410.2
1956—June ..	734.7	2,050.1	2,784.8	58.5	950.5	219.7	350.5	252.8	300.8	423.7
1957—June ..	742.3	2,046.5	2,788.8	57.5	947.9	212.6	353.1	250.7	304.3	434.8
1956—October ..	730.9	2,046.5	2,777.4	58.7	944.0	216.1	351.3	251.4	300.1	428.4
November..	732.2	2,060.6	2,792.8	58.5	946.7	217.2	352.4	258.4	302.1	430.4
December ..	730.9	2,055.5	2,786.4	58.4	940.1	215.4	350.1	264.8	302.1	428.5
1957—January ..	730.2	2,046.0	2,776.2	58.0	941.0	214.5	350.7	253.1	304.5	427.0
October ..	741.9	2,049.1	2,791.0	55.5	951.7	207.4	349.1	254.7	306.6	436.9
November..	741.1	2,055.8	2,796.9	55.1	952.3	204.7	347.5	263.9	307.0	437.0
December ..	741.1	2,054.3	2,795.4	54.7	948.3	202.4	347.5	267.4	307.4	437.8
1958—January ..	744.6	2,053.3	2,797.9	54.4	953.8	203.9	350.4	258.6	308.7	437.1

(a) Excludes Defence Forces, at home or abroad, and National Service Trainees in camp. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. Figures from June, 1955, subject to revision. (b) Includes all employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, banks, post office, air transport, education, broadcasting, police, public works, factories and munitions establishments, migrant hostels, etc., as well as administrative employees within Australia. (c) Pay-roll series subject to revision. (d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, other Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic).

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT.(a)

('000.)

Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.									
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1955—June ..	779.2	556.7	272.0	178.7	136.4	64.0	4.8	8.7	2,000.5
1956—June ..	787.8	564.2	276.0	184.5	135.5	64.4	5.0	8.5	2,025.9
1957—June ..	789.5	565.0	275.8	182.9	133.6	65.2	5.5	8.9	2,026.4
1956—September	786.8	561.6	276.7	182.6	134.4	64.4	5.1	8.5	2,020.1
October ..	785.2	560.9	277.2	182.3	134.5	64.3	5.2	8.5	2,018.1
November ..	790.6	563.8	277.4	182.5	134.8	64.4	5.2	8.6	2,027.3
December ..	791.6	563.1	272.0	182.2	134.7	65.1	5.2	8.7	2,022.6
1957—January ..	789.4	562.5	268.8	182.7	134.2	65.7	5.4	8.8	2,017.5
September	788.5	564.5	273.3	182.4	133.7	64.5	5.5	9.3	2,021.7
October ..	789.5	565.9	272.0	182.0	134.0	64.6	5.5	9.3	2,022.8
November ..	789.3	566.8	270.2	181.8	134.4	64.6	5.4	9.4	2,021.9
December ..	790.2	568.3	266.2	182.1	134.2	65.5	5.5	9.5	2,021.5
1958—January ..	791.1	570.2	266.5	183.1	134.2	66.1	5.4	9.5	2,026.1
FEMALES.									
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1955—June ..	292.5	227.0	89.3	60.2	43.9	21.7	1.0	2.9	738.5
1956—June ..	300.2	233.0	91.2	62.9	44.6	22.8	1.1	3.1	758.9
1957—June ..	302.2	233.4	92.8	62.8	44.2	22.6	1.2	3.2	762.4
1956—September	300.1	232.3	91.7	62.6	44.2	21.9	1.1	3.1	757.0
October ..	301.0	233.3	91.8	62.8	44.2	22.0	1.1	3.1	759.3
November ..	304.0	235.5	92.2	63.0	44.4	22.1	1.2	3.1	765.5
December ..	304.7	232.8	92.0	62.9	44.6	22.6	1.2	3.0	763.8
1957—January ..	301.3	231.3	91.3	64.0	43.8	22.7	1.1	3.2	758.7
September	304.7	232.3	93.2	63.2	44.8	22.0	1.2	3.3	764.7
October ..	307.0	233.8	93.0	63.1	44.9	21.9	1.2	3.3	768.2
November ..	310.7	235.8	93.0	63.7	45.4	21.9	1.2	3.3	775.0
December ..	310.2	234.8	92.6	63.5	45.7	22.6	1.2	3.3	773.9
1958—January ..	307.5	235.9	92.0	64.3	44.9	22.6	1.2	3.4	771.8
Persons.									
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1955—June ..	1,071.7	783.7	361.3	238.9	180.3	85.7	5.8	11.6	2,739.0
1956—June ..	1,088.0	797.2	367.2	247.4	180.1	87.2	6.1	11.6	2,784.8
1957—June ..	1,091.7	798.4	368.6	245.7	177.8	87.8	6.7	12.1	2,788.8
1956—September	1,086.9	793.9	368.4	245.2	178.6	86.3	6.2	11.6	2,777.1
October ..	1,086.2	794.2	369.0	245.1	178.7	86.3	6.3	11.6	2,777.4
November ..	1,094.6	799.3	369.6	245.5	179.2	86.5	6.4	11.7	2,792.8
December ..	1,096.3	795.9	364.0	245.1	179.3	87.7	6.4	11.7	2,786.4
1957—January ..	1,090.7	793.8	360.1	246.7	178.0	88.4	6.5	12.0	2,776.2
September	1,093.2	796.8	366.5	245.6	178.5	86.5	6.7	12.6	2,786.4
October ..	1,096.5	799.7	365.0	245.1	178.9	86.5	6.7	12.6	2,791.0
November ..	1,100.0	802.6	363.2	245.5	179.8	86.5	6.6	12.7	2,796.9
December ..	1,100.4	803.1	358.8	245.6	179.9	88.1	6.7	12.8	2,795.4
1958—January ..	1,098.6	806.1	358.5	247.4	179.1	88.7	6.6	12.9	2,797.9

(a) Excludes Rural, Female Private Domestic, Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp. See also notes on page 6.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.(a)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.				
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	Index—Av. 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.	
										Un-adjusted.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.		
1936-37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937-38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1,019	1,019
1938-39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1,031	1,022
1949-50 ..	358.8	281.5	79.6	75.7	36.6	21.9	636.9	217.2	854.1	1,624	1,386
1950-51 ..	379.0	290.4	83.2	80.8	38.6	22.2	664.8	229.4	894.2	1,701	1,408
1951-52 ..	377.9	292.2	83.1	81.3	38.8	22.0	672.3	223.0	895.3	1,703	1,369
1952-53 ..	351.4	279.1	82.1	77.2	38.7	21.5	652.7	197.3	850.0	1,617	1,268
1953-54 ..	369.6	296.1	85.0	82.2	40.3	22.4	681.1	214.5	895.6	1,703	1,312
1954-55 ..	384.0	308.5	87.1	85.1	41.3	23.0	704.9	224.1	929.0	1,767	1,334
1955-56 ..	391.5	315.6	87.8	87.0	41.8	24.3	719.8	228.2	948.0	1,803	1,328
1956-57 ..	392.9	313.4	88.1	85.9	40.9	25.4	719.2	227.4	946.6	1,800	1,296
Monthly Total—											
1955-56—											
January(b)	391.1	315.5	83.4	88.7	42.1	24.8	718.9	226.7	945.6	1,799	1,324
February..	394.2	318.9	85.4	88.3	42.0	24.7	721.8	231.7	953.5	1,814	1,332
March ..	392.5	319.6	86.0	88.6	41.7	24.8	722.4	230.8	953.2	1,813	1,328
April ..	393.1	318.5	87.0	87.8	41.5	25.4	723.9	229.4	953.3	1,813	1,326
May ..	392.4	317.5	88.1	87.1	41.3	25.5	723.1	228.8	951.9	1,810	1,321
June ..	391.6	316.6	89.5	86.4	41.0	25.4	722.2	228.3	950.5	1,808	1,318
1956-57—											
July ..	389.5	315.0	90.0	86.1	40.7	25.3	719.9	226.7	946.6	1,800	1,309
August ..	390.0	313.6	89.5	85.8	40.5	25.1	718.2	226.3	944.5	1,796	1,304
September	390.9	313.7	89.7	85.6	40.8	24.6	718.1	227.2	945.3	1,798	1,303
October ..	391.1	312.5	89.3	85.5	40.9	24.7	716.9	227.1	944.0	1,795	1,299
November	392.8	313.3	89.6	85.2	41.0	24.8	719.3	227.4	946.7	1,801	1,300
December	391.6	311.7	85.2	85.2	41.0	25.4	715.3	224.8	940.1	1,788	1,288
January ..	393.0	310.7	83.4	86.8	40.9	26.2	715.0	226.0	941.0	1,790	1,288
February..	394.9	314.3	87.3	87.1	41.0	26.0	720.3	230.3	950.6	1,808	1,298
March ..	396.8	316.8	87.9	87.0	41.1	25.7	722.6	232.7	955.3	1,817	1,303
April ..	395.0	314.0	87.3	86.1	41.0	25.8	720.4	228.8	949.2	1,805	1,291
May ..	395.3	312.7	88.1	85.4	41.1	25.6	721.6	226.6	948.2	1,804	1,288
June ..	394.4	312.1	90.1	85.3	40.7	25.3	722.3	225.6	947.9	1,803	1,284
1957-58—											
July ..	393.9	311.2	90.1	85.1	40.5	25.0	721.0	224.8	945.8	1,799	1,280
August ..	393.6	311.0	89.7	85.2	40.5	24.8	719.9	224.9	944.8	1,797	1,276
September	396.3	311.5	89.3	85.7	40.9	24.5	722.5	225.7	948.2	1,804	1,279
October ..	398.2	313.8	88.5	85.8	41.0	24.4	724.3	227.4	951.7	1,810	1,281
November	400.2	314.8	86.2	85.5	41.1	24.5	724.5	227.8	952.3	1,811	1,280
December	399.2	313.8	82.7	85.9	41.0	25.7	722.0	226.3	948.3	1,804	1,273
January ..	399.0	316.9	83.3	87.4	40.9	26.3	726.0	227.8	953.8	1,814	1,277

(a) Figures from 1949-50 subject to revision. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp.

(b) Affected by industrial disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN RETAIL TRADE.(a)

('000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(b)		
							Males.	Females.	Persons.
Monthly Average—									
1950-51.. ..	97.2	68.8	31.1	23.9	18.2	7.3	129.3	117.8	247.1
1951-52.. ..	95.9	68.6	31.3	23.6	18.4	7.3	128.0	117.7	245.7
1952-53.. ..	90.1	66.1	30.0	22.4	18.1	7.2	124.2	110.4	234.6
1953-54.. ..	93.0	67.5	30.6	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.2	114.0	241.2
1954-55.. ..	96.3	69.9	31.2	24.2	19.6	7.7	129.7	119.8	249.5
1955-56.. ..	97.7	71.4	31.7	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	124.2	254.7
1956-57.. ..	96.3	71.2	32.0	24.8	19.7	7.9	130.0	122.7	252.7
Monthly Total—									
1955-56—									
January	98.0	72.3	32.1	25.9	20.2	8.0	131.4	125.9	257.3
February	96.6	71.2	31.4	25.7	19.9	8.0	130.2	123.3	253.5
March	97.2	71.2	31.5	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	123.2	253.7
April	96.3	71.2	31.6	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.1	122.7	252.8
May	96.5	71.3	31.7	25.4	19.7	8.0	130.1	123.3	253.4
June	96.0	71.6	31.9	25.2	19.6	7.8	129.9	122.9	252.8
1956-57—									
July	95.8	71.0	31.7	25.3	19.6	7.8	129.5	122.4	251.9
August	95.1	70.6	31.6	24.8	19.5	7.8	129.0	121.0	250.0
September	94.9	70.8	31.5	24.8	19.4	7.7	128.7	121.1	249.8
October	95.3	71.2	31.9	24.9	19.6	7.8	129.2	122.2	251.4
November	99.1	72.9	32.7	25.2	19.7	7.9	131.9	126.5	258.4
December	103.5	73.8	32.9	25.1	20.2	8.4	134.8	130.0	264.8
January	96.1	71.1	32.1	25.0	19.9	8.1	130.2	122.9	253.1
February	95.3	70.9	31.9	24.7	19.8	8.0	129.7	121.6	251.3
March	95.2	70.5	31.6	24.6	19.8	7.9	129.1	121.2	250.3
April	94.7	70.5	31.6	24.6	19.6	8.0	128.8	120.7	249.5
May	95.5	70.7	32.1	24.4	19.9	7.9	129.3	121.9	251.2
June	95.0	70.7	32.2	24.4	19.8	7.9	129.4	121.3	250.7
1957-58—									
July	95.4	70.7	32.2	24.3	19.8	7.8	129.6	121.3	250.9
August	95.8	70.3	32.1	24.3	19.5	7.7	129.5	121.0	250.5
September	96.5	71.0	32.3	24.4	19.6	7.7	130.0	122.1	252.1
October	98.3	71.5	32.5	24.4	19.6	7.6	130.8	123.9	254.7
November	103.0	73.8	33.4	25.2	20.1	7.8	134.0	129.9	263.9
December	104.2	75.5	33.1	25.1	20.6	8.1	136.2	131.2	267.4
January	99.5	72.9	32.5	24.9	20.3	7.8	133.1	125.5	258.6

(a) Estimates based on Pay-roll Tax returns. Figures subject to revision. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp.

(b) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 75 per cent. of the estimated number of civilian wage and salary earners in employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted quarterly index of average weekly wage earnings is published on page 2.

Period.		New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).								
1950-51	.. ..	11,385	7,916	3,501	2,389	1,639	817	27,647
1951-52	.. ..	14,364	9,816	4,319	3,018	2,108	1,059	34,684
1952-53	.. ..	15,090	10,490	4,750	3,311	2,344	1,178	37,163
1953-54	.. ..	16,043	11,305	5,065	3,561	2,586	1,280	39,840
1954-55	.. ..	17,357	12,221	5,398	3,839	2,731	1,365	42,911
1955-56	.. ..	18,955	13,358	5,809	4,195	2,897	1,476	46,690
1956-57	.. ..	20,167	14,111	6,218	4,387	2,979	1,596	49,458
1955-56—								
December Qtr.	.. ..	19,683	13,664	6,034	4,267	2,980	1,462	48,090
March	.. ..	18,229	12,832	5,435	4,057	2,849	1,442	44,844
June	.. ..	19,453	14,045	6,002	4,359	2,915	1,587	48,361
1956-57—								
September	.. ..	19,613	13,877	6,145	4,364	3,003	1,529	48,531
December	.. ..	21,038	14,627	6,584	4,497	3,011	1,610	51,367
March	.. ..	19,420	13,500	5,837	4,231	2,899	1,584	47,471
June	.. ..	20,595	14,441	6,304	4,456	3,005	1,660	50,461
1957-58—								
September	.. ..	20,493	14,372	6,356	4,495	3,101	1,548	50,365
December	.. ..	21,896	15,343	6,675	4,672	3,176	1,644	53,406

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (£).(c)								
1950-51	.. ..	11.46	11.70	9.82	10.58	10.23	9.99	11.09
1951-52	.. ..	14.24	14.20	11.93	13.13	12.80	12.59	13.65
1952-53	.. ..	15.50	15.46	13.32	14.58	14.13	13.97	14.95
1953-54	.. ..	16.15	16.27	14.05	15.30	15.04	14.92	15.69
1954-55	.. ..	16.96	17.06	14.51	16.09	15.55	15.60	16.42
1955-56	.. ..	18.16	18.22	15.34	17.10	16.37	16.66	17.51
1956-57	.. ..	19.20	19.13	16.24	17.70	17.02	17.73	18.43
1955-56—								
December Qtr.	.. ..	18.83	18.68	15.89	17.49	16.82	16.65	18.04
March	.. ..	17.46	17.43	14.54	16.43	16.08	16.25	16.81
June	.. ..	18.57	19.00	15.75	17.51	16.45	17.61	18.02
1956-57—								
September	.. ..	18.75	18.87	15.97	17.63	17.14	17.15	18.12
December	.. ..	20.01	19.84	17.14	18.20	17.19	18.04	19.13
March	.. ..	18.45	18.27	15.37	17.01	16.57	17.43	17.67
June	.. ..	19.60	19.54	16.46	17.94	17.18	18.30	18.78
1957-58—								
September	.. ..	19.51	19.48	16.54	18.16	17.80	17.37	18.77
December	.. ..	20.74	20.67	17.64	18.87	18.12	18.39	19.86

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civilian employment expressed in male units. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. The same ratio has been used in each State and because the average ratio of female to male earnings may vary between States, precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures above.

NOTE.—Comparisons as to trend should be made for complete years or corresponding periods of incomplete years. Quarterly totals and averages are affected by seasonal influences. The series is subject to revision, based on the results of the 1954 Census.

UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS.(a)

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT.

Period.	Unemployment.								Sickness.	Special. (b)
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	A.C.T.	Australia.	Australia.	Australia.
Average of Monthly Figures—										
1947-48 ..	637	140	2,640	49	390	32	..	3,888	8,538	517
1948-49 ..	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	..	1,575	7,614	591
1949-50(f) ..	c8, 327	123	1,371	(d) 241	155	30	(e)	10,247	7,585	897
1950-51(f) ..	c 287	71	326	(d) 6	59	14	(e)	763	7,059	863
1951-52(f) ..	c 949	220	1,374	(d) 24	64	16	(e)	2,647	6,454	993
1952-53 ..	c17,590	6,168	4,281	(d) 842	841	262	(e)	29,984	7,140	1,408
1953-54 ..	c 6,495	2,698	3,169	(d) 252	406	212	(e)	13,232	7,994	1,868
1954-55 ..	1,440	539	1,408	66	153	81	3	3,690	7,984	1,983
1955-56 ..	1,362	479	1,511	83	515	57	6	4,013	7,303	1,973
1956-57 ..	4,151	3,349	2,343	702	1,972	134	15	12,666	6,992	2,012
Last Saturday of Month—										
1955-56—										
February ..	1,932	341	3,371	55	374	50	5	6,128	7,150	1,998
March ..	2,233	350	3,268	62	536	31	12	g 6,494	6,855	1,966
April ..	1,771	566	2,223	86	683	30	18	g 5,379	6,979	1,947
May ..	1,837	760	1,562	140	989	36	11	h 5,336	7,129	1,977
June ..	2,313	1,412	1,270	319	1,606	71	12	7,003	7,244	1,947
1956-57—										
July ..	3,051	2,515	909	493	2,082	91	22	h 9,164	7,453	2,040
August ..	3,138	3,129	809	706	2,304	110	16	10,212	7,557	2,029
September ..	3,208	2,949	792	674	1,871	108	12	9,614	7,288	1,998
October ..	3,126	3,067	829	640	1,788	88	7	9,545	7,261	1,986
November ..	3,308	3,085	821	770	1,666	92	16	h 9,759	7,137	1,962
December ..	4,329	3,593	2,118	978	2,126	97	36	13,277	6,520	1,967
January ..	4,168	3,493	4,083	702	2,244	88	23	h14,802	6,515	2,053
February ..	4,327	2,677	4,218	462	1,930	71	9	13,694	6,808	2,076
March ..	4,311	2,771	3,802	481	1,607	94	11	13,077	7,112	2,063
April ..	5,230	3,772	3,876	631	1,804	126	14	15,453	6,506	2,008
May ..	5,378	4,057	3,009	835	1,803	236	7	15,325	6,896	1,985
June ..	6,230	5,073	2,851	1,054	2,441	410	12	18,071	6,845	1,971
1957-58—										
July ..	7,318	5,887	2,411	1,345	2,772	543	15	20,291	6,813	1,970
August ..	7,878	5,618	2,216	1,320	2,458	665	20	20,175	7,176	1,965
September ..	7,177	5,271	2,458	1,233	2,120	695	19	g18,975	7,305	1,997
October ..	6,446	4,661	2,585	1,240	2,075	662	17	g17,688	7,309	2,050
November ..	7,005	4,390	4,484	1,418	1,865	594	24	g19,782	7,343	2,097
December ..	8,900	4,695	7,801	1,568	2,393	591	55	g26,005	6,815	2,150
January ..	9,835	4,974	9,357	1,518	2,596	434	37	i 28,755	6,858	2,168
February ..	9,575	4,085	9,431	1,425	2,257	326	45	j27,163	7,464	2,180

(a) As furnished by the Department of Social Services. (b) Excludes migrants in reception and training centres. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (d) Includes Northern Territory. (e) Included with New South Wales. (f) Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of Part VII. of the *Social Services Act 1947-1957*. (g) Includes Northern Territory, 2. (h) Includes Northern Territory, 1. (i) Includes Northern Territory, 4. (j) Includes Northern Territory, 19.

UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS—continued.

NUMBER ADMITTED TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS: AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number Admitted to Unemployment Benefit.(a)			Amount paid in Benefits during Month.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Unem- ployment.	Sickness.	Special—		Total.
						Migrants.	Ordinary.	
				£	£	£	£	£
Monthly Average—								
1947-48.. ..	2,273	116	2,389	30,802	65,944	1,319	3,391	101,456
1948-49.. ..	955	56	1,011	11,570	66,319	7,088	4,225	89,202
1949-50.. ..	10,854	2,571	13,425	105,506	68,001	35,361		208,868
1950-51.. ..	881	111	992	5,204	62,143	13,520	5,568	86,435
1951-52.. ..	1,771	520	2,291	15,584	59,157	2,319	6,911	83,971
1952-53.. ..	12,793	1,797	14,590	380,812	116,108	8,172	16,197	521,289
1953-54.. ..	4,368	810	5,178	208,788	139,633	4,561	25,639	378,621
1954-55.. ..	1,529	496	2,025	56,620	133,987	4,534	24,848	219,989
1955-56.. ..	2,525	590	3,115	55,985	126,589	5,433	25,585	213,592
1956-57.. ..	6,811	1,192	8,003	174,670	124,877	6,785	26,954	333,286
Monthly Total—								
1955-56—								
February ..	5,851	850	6,701	80,469	119,925	7,737	22,343	230,474
March(b) ..	3,776	816	4,592	90,790	123,763	3,278	24,865	242,696
April ..	3,078	694	3,772	108,321	120,559	8,714	24,419	262,013
May ..	2,987	790	3,777	86,573	119,215	4,563	25,652	236,003
June(b) ..	4,919	1,066	5,985	86,720	124,246	3,797	27,032	241,795
1956-57—								
July ..	5,405	1,017	6,422	101,482	120,263	8,638	22,206	252,589
August ..	6,203	1,029	7,232	141,971	147,559	6,164	29,466	325,160
September(b) ..	6,289	985	7,274	137,539	122,136	5,042	22,366	287,083
October ..	4,703	828	5,531	145,851	137,133	1,789	27,377	312,150
November ..	4,564	987	5,551	128,343	108,286	1,647	24,028	262,304
December(b) ..	7,480	1,071	8,551	119,325	106,912	3,925	24,167	254,329
January ..	8,069	849	8,918	247,430	133,027	4,747	31,168	416,372
February ..	7,755	1,245	9,000	222,303	116,006	4,956	31,777	375,042
March(b) ..	6,907	1,467	8,374	193,234	117,846	7,286	25,130	343,496
April ..	7,319	1,364	8,683	172,388	105,214	7,762	24,025	309,389
May ..	6,893	1,323	8,216	230,126	135,683	10,889	30,128	406,826
June(b) ..	10,135	2,143	12,278	256,044	148,461	18,573	31,609	454,687
1957-58—								
July ..	9,165	1,959	11,124	r256,170	100,619	r28,874	22,636	408,299
August(b) ..	10,309	1,755	12,064	r322,989	145,700	r20,775	26,473	515,937
September ..	7,272	1,370	8,642	274,373	114,295	16,827	22,881	428,376
October ..	6,219	1,305	7,524	273,086	126,589	14,961	23,588	438,224
November(b) ..	9,264	1,814	11,078	365,919	191,174	10,652	38,818	606,563
December ..	12,152	1,433	13,585	379,388	149,356	14,050	31,159	573,953
January ..	11,983	1,536	13,519	563,367	159,991	13,039	36,880	773,277
February ..	10,562	2,300	12,862	585,502	161,223	17,866	36,313	800,904

(a) Number admitted during the four weeks ended on the last Saturday in the month except where otherwise shown.

(b) Number admitted during the five weeks ended on the last Saturday in the month.

For meaning of symbol, r, see page 1.

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN AUSTRALIA(a): COMMODITY GROUPS.

The figures in the table below relate to goods (as distinct from services, accommodation, entertainments, meals, etc.) sold to the public by establishments selling retail goods from fixed premises (shops, rooms, kiosks, yards) and include the retail sales of establishments principally engaged in wholesale, manufacturing or servicing activities. The table contains particulars of retail sales of goods for the years 1948-49 to 1956-57 on a comparable basis throughout. The figures for the years 1948-49 and 1952-53 were obtained from Censuses taken in respect of those years, whereas figures for the other periods shown are estimates based on sample surveys. To provide comparability with the 1952-53 Census an adjustment has been made in the figures originally published for hardware, china and glassware for 1948-49 and subsequent periods.

(£ million.)

Period.	Groceries.	Butchers' Meat.	Other Food. (b)	Beer, Wine and Spirits.	Clothing, Drapery and Footwear.	Hardware.(c)	Electrical Goods. (d)	Furniture.	Other Goods.	Total (Excl. Motor Vehicles, etc.).	Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.(e)
Quarterly Average—											
1948-49 ..	35.9	16.3	29.1	23.8	59.5	13.9	8.5	11.6	42.0	240.6	41.5
1949-50 ..	40.2	18.9	32.9	26.2	66.0	16.6	10.9	13.6	51.1	276.4	68.3
1950-51 ..	46.5	23.1	38.9	30.8	82.1	22.8	16.2	19.2	63.1	342.7	95.5
1951-52 ..	58.2	29.7	47.0	38.5	87.9	27.4	19.4	19.0	76.9	404.0	108.3
1952-53 ..	65.4	31.9	51.7	43.2	88.8	28.4	19.0	18.2	78.9	425.5	104.3
1953-54 ..	68.8	33.4	55.9	46.7	96.9	31.2	22.8	20.3	84.2	460.2	122.9
1954-55 r ..	76.5	36.6	61.6	50.7	105.5	35.7	25.1	21.7	91.5	504.9	145.9
1955-56 r ..	84.0	39.6	67.2	55.0	109.3	38.3	26.5	23.1	98.6	541.6	158.4
1956-57 r ..	88.0	42.6	70.1	58.8	110.6	38.5	28.4	23.1	103.6	563.7	160.2
Quarterly Total—											
1952-53—											
Dec. Qtr. ..	68.9	32.1	54.2	47.4	100.6	30.9	22.5	19.8	89.4	465.8	110.3
Mar. „ ..	63.2	31.2	51.8	44.9	76.5	27.2	18.4	17.5	75.0	405.7	101.5
June „ ..	66.6	32.7	52.2	42.0	97.7	29.3	18.0	18.2	76.4	433.1	110.3
1953-54—											
Sept. „ ..	67.9	33.4	53.0	41.9	88.0	29.6	20.1	19.6	78.9	432.4	113.6
Dec. „ ..	72.9	33.8	58.5	51.9	111.4	34.9	28.0	22.8	96.6	510.8	127.3
Mar. „ ..	65.6	32.7	56.0	48.3	82.7	28.7	22.1	18.1	78.6	432.8	117.4
June „ ..	68.7	34.0	56.2	44.6	105.5	31.5	21.0	20.5	82.8	464.8	133.4
1954-55—											
Sept. „ ..	72.3	35.9	58.2	45.4	r97.3	34.3	r23.1	21.8	82.4	470.7	r141.6
Dec. r „ ..	80.7	36.5	64.1	53.7	120.2	39.2	30.8	24.6	105.0	554.8	149.2
Mar. r „ ..	74.2	35.9	62.2	53.6	90.0	33.6	24.0	19.3	86.8	479.6	137.7
June r „ ..	78.8	38.1	62.1	50.0	114.5	35.6	22.6	21.2	91.6	514.5	155.2
1955-56—											
Sept. r „ ..	81.4	38.3	63.6	49.2	103.2	37.7	25.1	23.4	92.0	513.9	160.9
Dec. r „ ..	86.3	39.3	69.9	58.9	125.4	42.2	33.0	25.7	116.0	596.7	165.4
Mar. r „ ..	83.7	39.4	68.9	57.0	93.0	35.7	24.6	20.7	91.2	514.2	152.0
June r „ ..	84.5	41.6	66.3	54.8	115.7	37.8	23.5	22.5	95.0	541.7	155.3
1956-57—											
Sept. r „ ..	86.9	42.1	67.6	53.2	102.2	36.7	24.5	23.0	97.6	533.8	154.4
Dec. r „ ..	92.0	42.7	72.5	64.2	128.2	42.6	34.0	26.0	118.4	620.6	166.0
Mar. r „ ..	85.0	42.2	70.1	60.6	95.5	36.8	26.6	21.0	97.4	535.2	154.8
June r „ ..	88.2	43.6	70.1	57.1	116.3	37.8	28.6	22.5	100.8	565.0	165.4
1957-58—											
Sept. r „ ..	90.0	44.2	70.0	56.9	107.3	38.3	29.9	24.4	103.0	564.0	169.6
Dec. „ ..	96.1	42.7	77.3	68.7	134.3	44.3	38.9	27.5	125.4	655.2	185.5

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Includes fresh fruit and vegetables, confectionery, soft drinks, ice cream, cakes, pastry, cooked provisions, fish, etc., but excludes some delivered milk and bread. (c) Excludes basic building materials (e.g., timber, roofing tiles, bricks, etc.) (d) Includes radios, television and accessories, musical instruments, domestic refrigerators, etc. (e) Excludes farm machinery and implements, earth-moving equipment, etc.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE BUSINESSES.

The following statistics relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods by retail but do not retail goods themselves. Agreements originally made between retailers and customers, and subsequently assigned to finance businesses are excluded from the particulars of agreements made during each month, but from the time of assignment, are included in the figures for balances outstanding.

NEW AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number of Agreements. r	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b) (Per cent.)
		Total.r (£'000.)	Average per Agreement.r (£)	Total.r (£'000.)	Average per Agreement.r (£)	

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC.

Monthly Average—									
1954-55	..	..	..	23,141	15,954	689	9,224	399	58
1955-56	..	..	..	25,405	17,709	697	10,464	412	59
1956-57	..	..	..	26,367	18,712	710	11,386	432	61
Monthly Total—									
1956-57—									
January	..	..	..	25,857	17,679	684	10,759	416	61
February	..	..	..	23,574	16,656	707	10,148	430	61
March	..	..	..	25,492	18,188	713	11,034	433	61
April	..	..	..	24,673	17,403	705	10,616	430	61
May	..	..	..	27,218	19,733	725	12,007	441	61
June	..	..	..	24,517	17,198	701	10,476	427	61
1957-58—									
July	..	..	..	27,560	19,467	706	11,930	433	61
August	..	..	..	27,438	19,140	698	11,730	428	61
September	..	..	..	27,697	19,338	698	11,763	425	61
October	..	..	..	30,633	21,700	708	13,248	432	61
November	..	..	..	30,347	21,919	722	13,394	441	61
December	..	..	..	31,529	22,992	729	14,106	447	61
January p	..	..	..	28,607	20,185	706	12,420	434	62

PLANT AND MACHINERY.

Monthly Average—									
1954-55	..	..	..	1,214	734	605	449	369	61
1955-56	..	..	..	1,583	991	626	615	389	62
1956-57	..	..	..	1,920	1,228	640	769	401	63
Monthly Total—									
1956-57—									
January	..	..	..	2,155	1,209	561	750	348	62
February	..	..	..	2,107	1,197	568	744	353	62
March	..	..	..	2,285	1,260	551	766	335	61
April	..	..	..	1,876	1,090	581	682	364	63
May	..	..	..	1,913	1,203	629	747	390	62
June	..	..	..	1,561	1,413	905	915	586	65
1957-58—									
July	..	..	..	1,454	905	622	589	405	65
August	..	..	..	1,598	1,161	727	729	456	63
September	..	..	..	1,653	1,231	745	784	474	64
October	..	..	..	1,979	1,572	794	973	492	62
November	..	..	..	2,472	1,764	714	1,089	441	r62
December	..	..	..	2,062	1,500	727	960	466	64
January p	..	..	..	1,658	1,211	730	787	475	65

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance).

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

For meaning of symbols, p, r, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE BUSINESSES—continued.

NEW AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA—continued.

Period.	Number of Agreements. r	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b) (Per cent.)
		Total. r (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. r (£)	Total. r (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. r (£)	
HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL GOODS.						
Monthly Average—						
1954-55	53,929	4,103	76	3,324	62	81
1955-56	57,229	4,329	76	3,515	61	81
1956-57	57,394	4,441	77	3,562	62	80
Monthly Total—						
1956-57—						
January	61,518	5,037	82	4,010	65	80
February	56,194	4,439	79	3,575	64	r81
March	59,974	4,683	78	3,759	63	80
April	53,524	4,385	82	3,525	66	80
May	63,612	5,387	85	4,364	69	81
June	53,502	4,752	89	3,807	71	80
1957-58—						
July	60,692	5,619	93	4,497	74	80
August	59,685	5,704	96	4,619	77	81
September	59,120	5,757	97	4,688	79	81
October	64,688	6,662	103	5,387	83	81
November	72,019	7,224	100	5,854	81	81
December	82,553	7,764	94	6,296	76	81
January p	71,888	7,318	102	5,909	82	81
TOTAL (ALL GOODS).						
Monthly Average—						
1954-55	78,284	20,791	266	12,997	166	r63
1955-56	84,217	23,029	273	14,594	173	63
1956-57	85,681	24,381	285	15,717	183	64
Monthly Total—						
1956-57—						
January	89,530	23,925	267	15,519	173	65
February	81,875	22,292	272	14,467	177	65
March	87,751	24,131	275	15,559	177	64
April	80,073	22,878	286	14,823	185	65
May	92,743	26,323	284	17,118	185	65
June	79,580	23,363	294	15,198	191	65
1957-58—						
July	89,706	25,991	290	17,016	190	65
August	88,721	26,005	293	17,078	192	66
September	88,470	26,326	298	17,235	195	65
October	97,300	29,934	308	19,608	202	r66
November	104,838	30,907	295	20,337	194	66
December	116,114	32,256	278	21,362	184	66
January p	102,153	28,714	281	19,116	187	67

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance).

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE BUSINESSES—*continued.*

BALANCES OUTSTANDING (INCLUDING HIRING CHARGES AND INSURANCE), STATES.(a)
(£'000.)

As at—	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(c) r	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. r
1953—							
31st March(d) ..	34,712	19,524	14,367	8,105	6,377	2,916	86,001
30th June(d) ..	35,246	20,052	15,087	8,532	6,765	3,108	88,790
30th September(d) ..	37,690	21,957	16,125	9,461	7,372	3,426	96,031
31st December(d) ..	43,205	25,407	18,404	11,015	8,415	3,865	110,311
1954—							
31st March ..	47,006	27,615	19,710	11,909	8,957	4,232	119,429
30th June ..	r50,883	30,806	22,385	13,318	10,154	4,772	132,318
30th September ..	54,457	34,240	24,076	14,989	11,382	5,274	144,418
31st December ..	61,413	38,877	26,537	16,795	12,525	5,918	162,065
1955—							
31st March ..	65,469	41,843	27,472	17,489	13,197	6,434	171,904
30th June ..	69,240	44,590	29,067	18,416	14,151	7,012	182,476
30th September ..	75,422	48,283	31,050	19,812	15,078	7,460	197,105
31st December ..	r79,899	53,180	32,519	21,415	16,080	7,951	211,044
1956—	r						
31st January ..	79,283	53,525	32,442	21,236	16,192	8,048	210,726
29th February ..	78,861	54,438	32,145	21,275	15,844	8,060	210,623
31st March ..	78,987	55,030	32,123	21,328	15,844	8,033	211,345
30th April ..	78,721	55,365	32,029	21,216	15,696	8,067	211,094
31st May ..	79,025	55,792	31,998	21,313	15,521	8,157	211,806
30th June ..	79,176	56,025	32,046	21,412	15,388	8,163	212,210
31st July ..	79,421	56,433	32,522	21,622	15,274	8,249	213,521
31st August ..	80,075	57,110	33,104	22,099	15,264	8,362	216,014
30th September ..	80,978	57,748	33,659	22,564	15,276	8,477	218,702
31st October ..	81,963	58,617	34,474	23,128	15,427	8,632	222,241
30th November ..	82,687	59,972	35,163	23,917	15,640	8,804	226,183
31st December ..	84,011	61,023	35,768	24,500	15,877	9,004	230,183
1957—							
31st January ..	84,291	61,223	36,036	24,871	15,783	8,959	231,163
28th February ..	84,118	61,328	36,146	24,971	15,416	8,938	230,917
31st March ..	83,903	61,854	36,258	24,940	15,331	9,011	231,297
30th April ..	84,248	62,292	36,435	24,860	15,448	8,972	232,255
31st May ..	84,601	63,083	36,538	24,972	15,519	9,024	233,737
30th June ..	85,412	64,042	36,551	25,038	15,488	9,010	235,541
31st July ..	86,121	64,940	36,664	25,068	15,558	8,996	237,347
31st August ..	86,889	66,303	37,061	25,255	15,760	8,985	240,253
30th September ..	88,557	67,361	37,460	25,501	15,982	8,971	243,832
31st October r ..	90,104	69,092	37,792	25,826	16,399	9,036	248,249
30th November r ..	92,175	71,318	38,639	26,285	16,902	9,225	254,544
31st December r ..	94,830	73,993	39,748	26,938	17,470	9,469	262,448
1958—							
31st January p ..	96,666	75,686	40,058	27,222	17,771	9,613	267,016

(a) Balances outstanding on existing agreements entered into at any time. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Includes Northern Territory. (d) Excludes balances outstanding on agreements originally financed by retailers but subsequently assigned to finance businesses. At 31st March, 1954, these balances amounted to less than £1 million in Australia.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold by wholesale in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, as vendors trading only in exempt goods are not required to furnish returns. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degrees. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustment to be made to the crude figures on this account.

(£ million.)

Period.								Average Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
								Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1936-37	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.4	21.8	37.2
1937-38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.9	23.6	40.5
1938-39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.4	23.4	39.8
1946-47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24.6	42.2	66.8
1947-48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.2	53.3	79.5
1948-49	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30.3	63.1	93.4
1949-50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38.0	72.2	110.2
1950-51	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45.6	94.9	140.5
1951-52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52.0	110.1	162.1
1952-53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46.3	111.8	158.1
1953-54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57.3	122.2	179.5
1954-55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63.9	141.6	205.5
1955-56	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66.5	154.8	221.3
1956-57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65.1	168.1	233.2

Monthly Taxable Net Sales at each Rate of Tax.(a)								Monthly Net Sales Recorded.								
								8½%	10%	12½%	16½%	25%	30%			
1956-57—																
December	..	..	14.9	31.6	8.6	7.2	9.1	71.4	163.8	235.2						
January	..	..	10.1	25.5	6.8	4.4	8.0	54.8	154.4	209.2						
February	..	..	11.5	27.1	8.7	5.2	9.1	61.6	163.3	224.9						
March	..	..	12.1	27.4	9.2	5.8	9.6	64.1	169.3	233.4						
April	..	..	11.3	25.4	8.9	5.7	9.4	60.7	167.1	227.8						
May	..	..	13.0	28.3	9.8	6.8	11.2	69.1	183.8	252.9						
June	..	..	10.5	23.6	8.2	5.9	10.2	58.4	164.3	222.7						
1957-58—																
July	..	..	11.8	27.9	8.5	7.0	9.4	64.6	170.7	235.3						
August	..	..	12.6	28.7	8.2	7.1	6.8	63.4	171.9	r235.3						
September	..	11.4	2.0	30.6	10.4	7.5	14.1	76.0	178.7	254.7						
October	r	15.2	..	33.8	9.9	7.7	12.1	78.7	188.7	267.4						
November(b)	r	16.6	..	34.3	10.1	7.5	11.8	80.3	186.5	266.8						
December(b)	..	16.3	..	34.5	9.0	8.0	10.5	78.3	174.2	252.5						

(a) On 4th September, 1957 the rate of 8½ per cent. was imposed and the rate of 10 per cent. discontinued. (b) Preliminary and partly estimated.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—										Fuels and Lubricants. (d)		Auxiliary Aids to Production. (e)		Munitions and War Stores.	
	Building and Construction.	Rural Industries.	Manufacturing.				Total. (c)									
			Motor Vehicle Assembly. <i>ab</i>	Other. (c)												
	Class IA.	Class IB.	Class Ic (5).		Class Ic (1-4).		CLASS I.		Class II.	Class III.	Class VII.					
Monthly Average—		%	%		%		%		%		%		%			
1936-37 ..	347	4.0	143	1.7	(f)	(f)	3,269	38.0	3,759	43.7	621	7.2	415	4.8	31	0.4
1937-38 ..	472	4.4	155	1.5			4,094	38.6	4,721	44.5	784	7.4	480	4.5	36	0.3
1938-39 ..	385	4.1	171	1.8			3,448	36.5	4,004	42.4	736	7.8	476	5.1	88	0.9
1950-51 ..	3,408	5.5	415	0.7	(f)	(f)	22,231	36.0	26,054	42.2	5,032	8.1	2,929	4.7	94	0.2
1951-52 ..	4,898	5.6	518	0.6			32,889	37.6	38,305	43.8	5,902	6.8	5,458	6.2	1,132	1.3
1952-53 ..	1,482	3.5	368	0.9			14,228	33.4	16,078	37.8	5,313	12.5	1,951	4.6	755	1.8
1953-54 ..	1,946	3.4	441	0.8			19,548	34.6	21,935	38.8	5,633	10.0	1,995	3.5	351	0.6
1954-55 ..	3,044	4.3	517	0.7			25,691	36.7	29,252	41.7	4,790	6.9	2,503	3.6	728	0.9
1955-56 ..	2,567	3.8	550	0.8	5,672	8.3	25,665	37.7	34,454	50.6	3,889	5.7	2,357	3.4	1,071	1.6
1956-57 ..	2,062	3.5	562	0.9	4,300	7.2	24,723	41.4	31,647	53.0	2,343	3.9	2,191	3.7	745	1.2
Monthly Total—																
1955-56—								(g)								
February(h)	1,905	3.2	412	0.7	5,076	8.6	23,858	40.4	31,251	52.9	2,971	5.0	2,028	3.4	839	1.4
March(h) ..	2,597	3.2	520	0.6	8,028	10.0	29,917	37.2	41,062	51.0	3,364	4.2	2,553	3.1	1,515	1.9
April ..	2,452	3.6	424	0.6	5,838	8.6	25,566	37.6	34,280	50.4	3,255	4.8	2,395	3.5	822	1.2
May ..	2,456	3.4	934	1.3	6,085	8.5	26,112	36.5	35,587	49.7	4,258	6.0	2,731	3.8	2,356	3.3
June ..	1,866	2.9	441	0.7	5,817	9.2	24,407	38.5	32,531	51.3	3,104	4.9	1,507	2.4	840	1.3
1956-57—																
July ..	1,997	3.5	521	0.9	4,799	8.4	22,717	39.6	30,034	52.4	1,955	3.4	2,443	4.3	243	0.4
August ..	2,683	3.4	631	0.8	7,486	9.5	29,679	37.7	40,479	51.4	2,826	3.6	3,116	4.0	1,581	2.0
September ..	2,298	4.3	652	1.2	3,915	7.3	20,316	37.9	27,181	50.7	2,602	4.8	1,948	3.6	698	1.3
October ..	2,166	3.8	648	1.1	4,443	7.8	22,202	38.9	29,459	51.6	2,704	4.7	2,293	4.0	1,108	1.9
November ..	2,352	4.0	591	1.0	4,827	8.1	23,840	39.9	31,610	53.0	3,208	5.4	1,819	3.0	727	1.2
December ..	2,021	3.9	490	1.0	2,970	5.7	22,046	42.4	27,527	53.0	1,789	3.4	2,203	4.2	523	1.0
January ..	2,440	3.9	432	0.7	3,022	4.8	27,719	44.2	33,613	53.6	2,274	3.6	1,935	3.1	918	1.5
February ..	1,407	2.8	406	0.8	3,067	6.0	22,742	44.6	27,622	54.2	2,017	4.0	1,996	4.0	739	1.5
March ..	1,818	3.1	611	1.0	3,853	6.6	23,920	40.8	30,202	51.5	1,970	3.4	2,019	3.4	682	1.2
April ..	1,999	3.3	570	0.9	3,947	6.5	25,282	41.5	31,798	52.2	2,525	4.1	2,576	4.2	431	0.7
May ..	1,770	2.6	652	0.9	4,891	7.1	31,399	45.4	38,712	56.0	2,468	3.6	2,513	3.6	805	1.2
June ..	1,799	3.2	538	1.0	4,377	7.8	24,815	44.4	31,529	56.4	1,783	3.2	1,430	2.6	481	0.9
1957-58 p—																
July ..	2,135	3.0	690	1.0	4,687	6.7	30,324	42.9	37,836	53.6	2,371	3.4	2,793	4.0	718	1.0
August ..	1,846	2.7	728	1.1	4,801	7.1	28,144	41.5	35,519	52.4	2,471	3.6	2,185	3.2	742	1.2
September ..	1,151	2.0	516	0.9	3,655	6.4	23,872	42.0	29,194	51.3	1,324	2.3	2,077	3.7	588	1.1
October ..	2,077	2.9	529	0.7	5,130	7.1	30,297	42.2	38,033	52.9	2,423	3.4	3,265	4.5	725	1.2
November ..	2,086	3.2	463	0.7	5,900	9.2	25,325	39.4	33,774	52.5	2,152	3.4	2,176	3.4	625	1.0
December ..	1,642	2.6	535	0.9	4,294	7.0	24,412	39.5	30,883	50.0	1,642	2.7	1,912	3.1	675	1.1
January ..	2,298	3.0	661	0.9	5,702	7.4	32,464	42.0	41,125	53.3	2,205	2.9	2,472	3.2	258	0.3
February ..	2,116	3.4	981	1.5	4,944	7.9	25,469	40.8	33,510	53.6	2,251	3.6	1,879	3.0	429	0.7

(a) Owing to insufficient information it is not possible to treat unassembled tractors and other machinery in a similar manner to motor vehicles and all such machinery is treated as capital equipment whether imported in an assembled or unassembled condition. (b) Includes replacement parts.

(c) Excludes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail and paper to be used solely for wrapping which are now recorded in classes VI E-J and III, respectively. Prior to issue No. 227 these goods were recorded in classes VI E-J and III, only for those periods subsequent to June, 1956.

(d) Excludes crude petroleum which is included in class Ic (1-4). (e) Includes a percentage for paper used solely for wrapping, see note (c).

(f) Included in class VB. (g) Prior to July, 1955 excludes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class IC (5). (h) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, — see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—continued.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumer Goods.							
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.		Clothing and Accessories.		All Other.		Total.	
			Complete Road Vehicles and Assembled Chassis.		Railway Equipment, Vessels and Civil Aircraft.									
	Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.		Class VI. D.		Class VI. E-J.		Class VI.	
Monthly Average—		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
1936-37 ..	884	10.3	872	10.1	146	1.7	516	6.0	46	0.5	1,316	15.3	1,878	21.8
1937-38 ..	1,149	10.8	1,161	11.0	205	1.9	531	5.0	68	0.6	1,480	14.0	2,079	19.6
1938-39 ..	1,104	11.7	899	9.5	119	1.3	564	6.0	84	0.9	1,361	14.4	2,009	21.3
1950-51 ..	6,679	10.8	9,245	15.0	1,137	1.8	2,873	4.7	745	1.2	6,993	11.3	10,611	17.2
1951-52 ..	9,960	11.4	10,942	12.5	1,661	1.9	3,074	3.5	1,149	1.3	9,896	11.3	14,119	16.1
1952-53 ..	8,409	19.8	3,569	8.3	1,703	4.0	1,917	4.5	130	0.3	2,704	6.4	4,751	11.2
1953-54 ..	9,474	16.8	5,769	10.2	1,552	2.7	2,658	4.7	446	0.8	6,736	11.9	9,840	17.4
1954-55 ..	10,289	14.8	7,377	10.5	1,824	2.6	3,236	4.6	614	0.9	9,468	13.5	13,318	19.0
1955-56 ..	11,174	16.4	(b)1,784	2.6	1,841	2.7	2,276	3.3	491	0.7	8,854	13.0	11,621	17.0
1956-57 ..	10,132	16.9	958	1.6	1,616	2.8	2,388	4.0	281	0.5	7,422	12.4	10,091	16.9
Monthly Total—														
1955-56—			(b)											
February(c)	10,076	17.1	1,581	2.7	1,479	2.5	1,575	2.7	535	0.9	6,795	11.4	8,905	15.0
March(c)	13,354	16.6	2,064	2.6	3,096	3.8	3,126	3.9	766	1.0	9,632	11.9	13,524	16.8
April ..	11,971	17.6	1,449	2.2	2,268	3.3	2,846	4.2	475	0.7	8,203	12.1	11,524	17.0
May ..	12,253	17.1	1,515	2.1	1,625	2.3	1,849	2.6	357	0.5	9,036	12.6	11,242	15.7
June ..	10,711	16.9	1,750	2.8	2,641	4.2	1,961	3.1	285	0.4	8,041	12.7	10,287	16.2
1956-57—														
July ..	9,735	17.0	1,119	1.9	2,282	4.0	2,233	3.9	212	0.4	7,041	12.3	9,486	16.6
August ..	13,676	17.3	1,578	2.0	1,547	2.0	2,807	3.6	502	0.6	10,662	13.5	13,971	17.7
September	8,542	15.9	1,121	2.1	2,473	4.6	2,139	4.0	264	0.5	6,721	12.5	9,124	17.0
October..	8,822	15.5	845	1.5	1,841	3.2	2,054	3.6	370	0.7	7,593	13.3	10,017	17.6
November	9,975	16.7	970	1.7	1,270	2.1	2,102	3.5	267	0.4	7,740	13.0	10,109	16.9
December	8,220	15.8	771	1.5	1,783	3.4	2,039	3.9	192	0.4	7,016	13.4	9,247	17.7
January ..	10,290	16.4	823	1.3	1,297	2.1	3,468	5.5	302	0.5	7,675	12.4	11,445	18.4
February	8,762	17.2	862	1.7	982	1.9	2,313	4.5	241	0.5	5,531	10.5	8,085	15.5
March ..	10,952	18.7	793	1.3	1,793	3.1	2,876	4.9	306	0.5	7,021	12.0	10,203	17.4
April ..	10,678	17.6	736	1.2	1,739	2.9	2,813	4.6	297	0.5	7,217	12.0	10,327	17.1
May ..	12,363	17.9	1,054	1.5	1,078	1.5	1,944	2.8	252	0.4	7,933	11.5	10,129	14.7
June ..	9,573	17.1	826	1.5	1,306	2.3	1,870	3.3	168	0.3	6,910	12.4	8,948	16.0
1957-58 p—														
July ..	12,911	18.2	1,377	2.0	1,456	2.0	1,887	2.7	332	0.5	8,916	12.6	11,135	15.8
August ..	12,478	18.4	1,241	1.8	1,886	2.7	1,921	2.8	320	0.5	9,146	13.4	11,387	16.7
September	10,832	19.0	1,031	1.8	903	1.6	1,919	3.4	440	0.8	8,605	15.0	10,964	19.2
October..	11,482	16.0	1,045	1.5	1,575	2.0	3,397	4.7	366	0.5	9,570	13.3	13,333	18.5
November	11,459	17.8	987	1.5	1,301	2.0	2,858	4.4	326	0.5	8,650	13.5	11,834	18.4
December	12,302	19.9	884	1.4	2,223	3.6	2,589	4.2	412	0.7	8,237	13.3	11,238	18.2
January ..	14,701	19.0	1,097	1.4	2,053	2.7	2,773	3.6	646	0.8	9,865	12.8	13,284	17.2
February	11,226	18.0	973	1.6	767	1.1	2,892	4.6	545	0.9	8,025	12.9	11,462	18.4

(a) Includes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail, see note (c), page 18.

(b) Prior to July, 1955 includes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in Class 1c.

(c) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.) (a)			Finished Consumer Goods. (Class VI.) (b)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37 ..	1,024	373	2,362	45	303	1,530	1,069	1,505	6,032	8,606
1937-38 ..	1,241	449	3,031	48	300	1,731	1,289	1,796	7,530	10,615
1938-39 ..	1,100	351	2,553	55	309	1,645	1,155	1,627	6,653	9,435
1950-51 ..	7,007	3,178	15,869	273	1,600	8,738	7,280	10,954	43,547	61,781
1951-52 ..	7,788	4,788	25,729	359	1,446	12,314	8,147	13,933	65,399	87,479
1952-53 ..	4,712	2,195	9,171	251	1,182	3,318	4,963	9,443	28,123	42,529
1953-54 ..	6,260	3,189	12,486	385	1,471	7,984	6,645	11,384	38,520	56,549
1954-55 ..	8,818	4,986	15,448	428	2,082	10,808	9,246	13,167	47,668	70,081
1955-56 ..	10,095	4,557	19,802	423	1,191	10,007	10,518	10,913	46,760	68,191
1956-57 ..	10,650	4,741	16,256	497	1,450	8,144	11,147	9,623	38,953	59,723
Monthly Total—										
1955-56—			(c)							
February(d) ..	10,492	4,259	16,500	221	930	7,754	10,713	9,268	39,149	59,130
March(d) ..	13,331	4,719	23,012	676	1,744	11,103	14,007	11,392	55,133	80,532
April ..	10,066	5,007	19,207	547	1,705	9,273	10,613	11,279	46,072	67,964
May ..	10,215	4,671	20,701	382	1,048	9,813	10,597	11,383	49,587	71,567
June ..	9,322	4,594	18,615	384	1,083	8,810	9,706	9,993	43,672	63,371
1956-57—										
July ..	9,236	4,385	16,413	385	1,459	7,642	9,621	8,847	38,829	57,297
August ..	10,031	6,516	23,932	404	1,905	11,662	10,435	12,791	55,548	78,774
September ..	8,996	4,177	14,008	548	1,250	7,326	9,544	9,052	35,093	53,689
October ..	10,095	4,279	15,085	426	1,038	8,553	10,521	9,046	37,522	57,089
November ..	11,398	3,832	16,380	354	1,240	8,515	11,752	9,401	38,535	59,688
December ..	10,858	3,657	13,012	613	1,071	7,563	11,471	7,409	33,183	52,063
January ..	12,274	5,120	16,219	572	2,314	8,559	12,846	10,798	38,951	62,595
February ..	10,511	4,162	12,949	405	1,544	6,136	10,916	8,599	31,550	51,065
March ..	10,671	4,467	15,064	687	1,755	7,761	11,358	9,233	38,023	58,614
April ..	10,220	5,443	16,135	572	1,760	7,995	10,792	10,835	39,183	60,810
May ..	13,494	6,022	19,196	538	1,102	8,489	14,032	10,846	44,244	69,122
June ..	10,016	4,826	16,687	465	965	7,518	10,481	8,618	36,777	55,876
1957-58 p—										
July ..	12,119	6,433	19,284	464	1,021	9,650	12,583	11,120	46,894	70,597
August ..	10,164	6,107	19,248	473	1,023	9,891	10,637	10,861	46,411	67,909
September ..	8,794	5,151	15,249	440	1,229	9,295	9,234	8,759	38,920	56,913
October ..	12,730	6,351	18,952	796	1,923	10,614	13,526	12,009	46,346	71,881
November ..	10,683	5,209	17,882	741	1,598	9,495	11,424	10,215	42,669	64,308
December ..	10,714	4,187	15,982	437	1,478	9,323	11,151	8,417	42,191	61,759
January ..	14,515	5,922	20,688	818	1,153	11,313	15,333	10,698	51,164	77,195
February ..	12,390	5,013	16,107	567	1,824	9,071	12,957	10,264	39,276	62,497

Note.—Class II. consists entirely of goods " simply transformed ", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods " more elaborately transformed ". Class III. is about equally divided between goods " simply " and " more elaborately transformed ".
 (a) See note (c) page 18. (b) See note (a) page 19. (c) See note (g) page 18. (d) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Meats.	Butter.	Wheat and Flour.	Fresh Fruits.	Dried Fruits.	Sugar and Sugar Syrups.	Hides and Skins.	Wool.	Lead.	Total Exports of Merchan- dise.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37.. ..	(a)861	734	2,029	165	172	309	609	5,209	402	12,316
1937-38.. ..	(a)1,021	898	2,245	171	224	336	516	3,915	409	11,719
1938-39.. ..	(a)982	1,074	1,106	169	239	348	342	3,561	356	10,128
1950-51.. ..	2,533	1,539	8,921	477	389	1,240	2,272	52,779	1,796	81,591
1951-52.. ..	2,957	383	7,359	572	472	586	1,428	26,953	2,156	55,437
1952-53.. ..	5,481	1,675	7,449	791	669	1,805	1,677	33,576	2,116	70,708
1953-54.. ..	4,816	1,338	5,053	774	617	2,639	1,620	34,202	2,004	67,655
1954-55.. ..	5,290	2,049	5,461	731	703	2,604	1,642	29,426	2,070	63,170
1955-56.. ..	5,039	2,414	5,513	761	650	2,070	1,747	28,127	2,162	64,236
1956-57.. ..	4,250	2,152	6,811	715	549	2,407	2,022	40,311	2,688	81,116
Monthly Total—										
1955-56—										
February(b) ..	995	106	2,754	50	14	1,033	456	8,231	283	19,985
March(b) ..	3,601	3,203	8,387	713	79	1,955	2,211	40,136	2,147	77,537
April ..	4,594	2,416	5,848	1,987	972	2,886	1,713	34,622	2,651	678,031
May ..	4,501	2,345	7,041	3,510	1,258	2,510	2,008	40,134	2,858	689,937
June ..	4,045	2,406	8,596	1,450	1,036	856	1,375	29,902	1,659	672,862
1956-57—										
July ..	3,612	1,623	7,325	311	553	715	1,399	27,688	1,809	60,913
August ..	4,174	2,196	7,623	241	533	2,356	1,946	16,192	3,333	57,284
September ..	4,618	1,821	8,135	106	588	3,135	1,829	21,379	2,078	60,093
October ..	4,448	3,708	8,752	334	444	3,778	2,220	45,463	4,201	95,306
November ..	4,345	2,967	8,517	156	114	4,641	2,130	48,199	2,899	93,554
December ..	3,823	2,691	6,143	42	102	2,532	1,893	41,691	2,316	75,976
January ..	4,232	4,979	8,500	35	8	2,129	1,787	42,679	2,429	87,556
February ..	4,264	2,201	5,407	138	44	3,817	2,073	48,107	3,576	89,320
March ..	3,565	1,116	7,647	727	17	1,719	1,824	58,491	2,041	97,389
April ..	2,870	765	4,840	2,402	506	1,891	2,350	50,183	2,018	87,227
May ..	4,944	1,306	4,109	3,380	2,329	826	2,266	43,588	3,788	90,676
June ..	6,107	451	4,729	703	1,348	1,344	2,551	40,068	1,768	78,103
1957-58 p—										
July ..	6,162	412	3,372	381	1,191	1,888	2,113	32,696	1,430	70,609
August ..	4,760	795	4,971	197	1,159	5,108	2,824	17,550	2,360	58,515
September ..	5,614	1,344	4,769	40	1,112	6,777	2,384	r30,588	2,226	75,817
October ..	5,118	2,609	r5,727	192	449	5,956	r2,745	r49,242	2,051	r94,088
November ..	5,241	2,766	r5,553	144	230	4,389	2,649	r40,724	1,999	r83,249
December ..	r4,584	1,877	r2,900	77	67	r4,511	r2,180	r38,069	1,062	r70,332
January ..	r3,762	1,783	r3,741	29	156	3,243	r2,174	31,950	2,349	r66,769
February ..	3,717	1,138	2,182	343	39	451	2,161	32,572	1,739	60,203

(a) Includes soups. (b) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r. —, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which normally constitute about 80 per cent. of all exports. The index numbers show price changes in the predominant market or markets for each commodity. (Average prices realized for exports are used for some markets.)

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX : FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the weights are the average annual exports of each commodity (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933-34 to 1935-36.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.		Wool.	Wheat.	Butter.	Metals. (a)	Meats. (b)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (c)	Tallow.	Hides. (d)	Gold. (e)	All Groups.	
												Excl. Gold.	Incl. Gold.
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate.	(f)	45.63	17.06	11.36	6.83	6.63	2.40	1.81	0.64	0.66	6.98	..	100.00
	(g)	49.05	18.34	12.21	7.34	7.13	2.58	1.94	0.69	0.72	..	100.00	..
1936-37	..	122	123	92	120	98	104	103	122	113	99	116	115
1937-38	..	99	111	107	96	106	92	103	100	100	98	102	102
1938-39	..	79	66	101	84	96	104	94	78	87	103	82	83
1950-51	..	999	432	271	689	209	410	226	356	752	176	690	654
1951-52	..	564	436	291	811	263	464	302	451	486	184	495	473
1952-53	..	616	445	313	504	314	501	297	358	369	186	505	483
1953-54	..	615	411	325	450	338	479	287	321	336	179	496	474
1954-55	..	538	357	313	511	344	445	267	349	218	178	450	431
1955-56	..	464	324	320	562	355	450	286	353	238	178	414	397
1956-57	..	578	327	250	545	368	501	319	357	240	178	464	444
1955-56—													
February	..	460	311	328	592	331	438	288	364	240	178	411	395
March	..	453	312	304	592	322	442	292	364	247	178	404	388
April	..	468	310	273	579	317	443	293	354	248	178	406	390
May	..	498	316	265	556	324	432	302	344	241	178	420	403
June	..	(h)505	317	299	548	335	439	317	347	252	178	428	411
1956-57—													
July	..	490	323	272	549	343	446	320	355	250	178	420	403
August	..	520	326	261	558	347	443	322	352	244	178	434	417
September	..	566	326	284	562	353	439	323	360	243	178	460	441
October	..	551	330	260	559	361	436	323	354	245	178	451	432
November	..	581	328	252	569	357	439	316	352	247	178	465	445
December	..	588	329	242	566	360	435	315	361	237	178	467	447
January	..	596	332	227	570	385	439	311	359	226	178	472	451
February	..	611	335	222	557	388	473	(h)309	360	234	178	479	458
March	..	596	327	218	555	372	568	309	359	248	178	471	451
April	..	618	321	224	548	382	620	(h)321	357	234	178	483	462
May	..	626	319	256	495	398	631	327	359	238	178	488	467
June	..	596	322	284	451	373	642	329	362	239	178	473	452
1957-58—													
July	..	(h) 596	331	278	445	351	577	325	347	240	178	470	450
August	..	551	342	274	448	345	622	326	357	239	178	450	431
September	..	543	344	274	441	333	571	330	364	242	178	445	426
October	..	498	350	257	423	337	541	334	362	236	178	420	403
November	..	483	352	232	409	337	488	341	364	244	178	407	391
December	..	445	p359	225	372	p338	481	343	365	243	178	p386	p372
January	..	p453	p363	r207	369	p339	504	342	376	237	178	p389	p374
February	..	p468	p368	194	375	p317	p496	346	379	239	178	p395	p379

(a) Silver, copper, tin, zinc, lead. (b) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork. Guaranteed minimum prices are used when operative.
(c) Sultanas, raisins, currants. (d) Cattle hides, calf skins. (e) Where Australian gold has been sold on the overseas premium markets such price has been used in the index. (f) For all Groups (including Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (g) For all Groups (excluding Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (h) Nominal.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—continued.

RECENT TRENDS—EXPORT PRICE INDEX—WOOL AND "OTHER GROUPS".

Reference to the group indexes in the table on page 22 hereof shows the great fluctuations and the wide dispersion of prices of export commodities in recent years. In particular, very great movements upwards and downwards have occurred in the price of wool. Since wool is a predominant export (and comprises 46 per cent. of the Base Aggregate of the index) fluctuations in wool prices obscure the effects which movements in prices of the other components have on the All Groups index. For purposes of comparison they are shown separately below.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	1950-51.			1951-52.			1952-53.			1953-54.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a592	333	451	a717	400	544	a566	381	465	a641	369	493
August	864	340	579	551	400	468	a566	380	465	a634	367	488
September ..	890	355	599	498	400	445	551	379	457	626	365	484
October	890	360	602	686	403	532	588	370	469	634	363	486
November ..	965	366	639	603	398	492	588	368	469	634	360	485
December ..	973	366	643	581	403	484	618	376	486	611	358	473
January	1,252	368	771	566	402	477	618	376	486	603	354	468
February ..	1,339	369	811	520	402	456	626	371	487	581	350	455
March	1,437	377	860	460	400	427	656	369	500	581	351	456
April	1,094	384	708	475	397	432	671	363	503	a596	348	461
May	973	385	653	543	385	457	701	361	516	618	346	470
June	717	383	535	566	376	463	641	363	490	622	346	472
Average of Year	999	365	654	564	397	473	616	371	483	615	356	474

Period	1954-55.			1955-56.			1956-57.			1957-58.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a622	338	468	a505	347	419	490	330	403	a596	327	450
August	566	338	442	453	347	395	520	330	417	551	331	431
September ..	566	339	442	437	347	388	566	336	441	543	328	426
October	536	344	431	437	351	390	551	332	432	498	323	403
November ..	513	343	421	437	352	391	581	331	445	483	314	391
December ..	532	348	432	453	352	398	588	329	447	445	p310	p372
January	520	345	425	460	349	400	596	330	451	p453	pr309	pr374
February ..	528	342	427	430	340	395	611	330	458	p468	p306	p379
March	528	341	426	453	335	388	596	329	451			
April	520	340	422	468	325	390	618	331	462			
May	520	340	422	498	323	403	626	333	467			
June	505	343	417	a505	331	411	596	332	452			
Average of Year	538	342	431	464	342	397	578	331	444			

(a) Nominal.

NOTE.—The index numbers in the two preceding tables indicate satisfactorily the trends of export prices, but take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. The impact of the price movements on current sales is indicated more directly by the index numbers below. In computing these the "quantity multipliers" are the quantities actually exported in the months (or periods) to which the index numbers relate. The index numbers for the most recent available month are:—

All Groups.			Month of February.		Eight months ended February.	
			1957.	1958.	1957.	1958.
Excluding Wool	..	..	100	89	100	96
Including Wool	..	..	100	80	100	89

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX.

Commodities in this index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible. The prices used have, in the main, been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants. With a few important exceptions they are from Melbourne sources. The weighting system adopted is based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base of each Group : Average of three years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco. (c)	Basic Materials & Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal. (a)	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported (b)	Goods principally Home Produced. (c)	Total All Groups. (c)
1936-37 ..	96	99	118	99	111	99	99	98	99	98	99
1937-38 ..	101	101	100	100	97	104	102	102	102	101	101
1938-39 ..	103	100	82	101	92	97	99	101	99	100	100
1950-51 ..	256	196	641	242	292	268	264	229	256	240	244
1951-52 ..	343	220	577	314	298	370	321	276	288	300	297
1952-53 ..	392	234	607	350	224	404	350	293	292	331	319
1953-54 ..	388	222	566	323	191	363	332	308	271	339	319
1954-55 ..	391	214	510	314	246	372	330	315	277	340	322
1955-56 ..	404	220	456	317	328	415	345	325	292	352	334
1956-57 ..	409	241	520	344	302	463	367	324	311	357	344
1955-56—											
February ..	405	216	453	317	325	408	343	318	288	346	329
March ..	405	230	446	317	323	425	350	328	299	354	338
April ..	403	230	456	318	326	442	353	328	303	355	339
May ..	410	231	477	317	322	444	357	333	304	361	344
June ..	409	231	482	318	326	444	357	328	299	358	341
1956-57—											
July ..	410	232	461	344	314	444	358	330	301	360	343
August ..	409	240	481	344	315	445	362	329	303	361	344
September ..	411	241	513	344	312	467	368	329	309	363	347
October ..	410	241	503	344	306	467	367	325	310	359	344
November ..	413	241	522	344	306	467	369	319	314	354	342
December ..	412	241	528	344	307	467	369	321	315	355	343
January ..	412	240	533	344	307	467	369	321	316	354	343
February ..	409	244	544	344	298	467	370	324	318	356	345
March ..	407	244	532	344	296	467	368	324	315	356	344
April ..	407	244	547	344	289	467	369	324	313	358	344
May ..	403	244	548	344	289	467	367	317	311	352	340
June ..	402	240	527	345	288	467	365	328	307	360	345
1957-58—											
July ..	399	240	524	353	283	467	364	333	305	365	347
August ..	401	240	495	353	283	467	363	339	306	368	350
September ..	401	240	490	353	285	457	361	334	303	365	346
October ..	398	240	454	353	295	457	358	322	304	353	338
November ..	398	240	444	346	297	457	357	314	308	345	334
December ..	r399	236	419	346	293	457	r355	p319	p304	p348	p335
January ..	r400	236	p424	347	278	458	pr355	p318	p302	pr349	p335
February ..	p397	236	p434	347	273	458	p355	p319	p301	p350	p335

(a) Special purpose index for the "Metals and Coal" group excluding coal and briquettes was 407 for February, 1958.
 (b) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in price of all imports.

(c) NOTE.—During 1956 these indexes were reconstructed from the base period by excluding potatoes and onions. For February, 1958, index numbers for these groups comparable with the previous indexes including potatoes and onions were : "Food-stuffs and Tobacco," 316 ; "Goods Principally Home Produced," 347 ; "Total All Groups," 333.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

The items priced and the levels at which they are priced in these indexes vary widely according to the intended purposes of the indexes of the respective countries. For the United Kingdom and France the current indexes are not available on a pre-war base.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Australia. (a)	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States of America. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United Kingdom.		France.	India.
							(c)	(d)		
1936-37 ..	99	96	97	101	104	98	Base : 30th June, 1949 = 100.		Base : 1949 = 100.	Base : 1938-39 (e) = 100.
1937-38 ..	101	102	103	104	101	103				
1938-39 ..	100	102	100	95	95	99				
1951-52 ..	297	243	252	229	213	285				
1952-53 ..	319	252	269	216	209	278	175	128	145	414
1953-54 ..	319	248	270	214	209	268	152	126	141	386
1954-55 ..	322	249	274	211	208	272	143	125	137	397
1955-56 ..	334	253	283	217	212	290	147	127	135	365
1956-57 ..	344	262	285	222	220	296	155	133	139	373
							158	138	143	424
1956-57—										
May ..	340	264	285	223	221	298	160	139	146	431
June ..	345	266	286	223	222	298	156	140	146	439
1957-58—										
July ..	347	266	287	223	224	300	155	140	148	444
August ..	350	266	289	222	224	296	154	141	150	442
Sept. ..	346	266	292	221	223	296	151	141	150	436
Oct. ..	338	266	293	219	223	294	149	142	155	433
Nov. ..	334	265	290	219	223	294	146	142	161	435
Dec. ..	p335	261	287	220	224	296	144	142		425
January	p335	261	288		225	296	142	142		423
Feb. ..	p335	263			225	294				

(a) See note (c), page 24.

(b) Current series linked to former series as at January, 1947 for U.S.A. and 1955-56 for Sweden.

(c) Basic materials (excluding fuel) used in non-food manufacturing industry.

(d) All manufactured products other than fuel, food and tobacco.

(e) Year ended August, 1939.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100 (a).)

Period.			Australia. (b)		New Zealand.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States of America.	United Kingdom.	
1936-37	..	..	97.3		96	97	98	100	Base :
1937-38	..	..	99.8		101	101	102	101	17th June.
1938-39	..	..	102.9		103	102	100	99	1947 = 100 _c
1951-52	..	..	233.7		176	182	186	186	131
1952-53	..	..	255.0		185	194	184	189	139
1953-54	..	..	262.2		195	199	184	190	140
1954-55	..	..	264.4		201	204	185	190	146
			A	B						
1955-56	..	..	274.2	277.4	206	209	186	190	(d) 154
1956-57	..	..	286.2	290.9	213	212	191	196	159
1956-57—										
April	..	..	289.3	290.1	214	{	213	192	160
May	..	..					214	192	161
June	..	..					215	193	162
1957-58—										
July ..	..	..	290.7	290.3	216	{	216	194	164
August					220	195	200	163
September					221	196	200	163
October	..	..	290.5	289.3	217	{	221	196	164
November					220	196	201	165
December					220	196	201	166

(a) For bases of series for the United Kingdom, see notes (c) and (d). (b) Indexes in Column "A" exclude, and those in Column "B" include, the price movement of potatoes and onions. (c) New series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100; cannot be linked to former series. (d) New series linked to former series.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index numbers have been converted arithmetically to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	"C" Series Retail Price Index : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.					Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.	
	Food and Groceries. (a)	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Clothing.	Miscel- laneous.	All Groups. (a)	Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	"Real" Wage, Adult Males. (a)(b)
1936-37	963	968	976	996	973	949	976
1937-38	989	1,001	1,006	1,003	998	1,007	1,000
1938-39	1,048	1,031	1,018	1,001	1,029	1,044	1,015
1949-50	1,664	1,063	2,626	1,443	1,669	1,913	1,146
1950-51	1,998	1,076	3,044	1,597	1,906	2,298	1,206
1951-52	2,694	1,104	3,623	1,898	2,337	2,806	1,201
1952-53	2,950	1,194	3,893	2,124	2,550	3,104	1,217
1953-54	3,073	1,255	3,938	2,148	2,622	3,207	1,223
1954-55	3,098	1,309	3,940	2,145	2,644	3,249	1,229
1955-56	A 3,265 | B 3,354	1,377	3,968	2,230	A 2,742 | B 2,774	(c) 3,362	A 1,226 | B 1,212
1956-57	3,395 | 3,528	1,458	4,043	2,423	2,862 | 2,909	(c) 3,534	1,235 | 1,215
1952-53— June Quarter	2,981	1,227	3,967	2,138	2,586	3,150	1,218
1953-54— September Quarter	3,073	1,235	3,946	2,141	2,618	3,195	1,220
December "	3,092	1,243	3,933	2,147	2,624	3,206	1,222
March "	3,070	1,255	3,946	2,157	2,624	3,213	1,224
June "	3,055	1,286	3,927	2,148	2,621	3,214	1,226
1954-55— September Quarter	3,037	1,301	3,924	2,145	2,618	3,213	1,227
December "	3,063	1,306	3,939	2,147	2,631	3,233	1,229
March "	3,124	1,310	3,934	2,132	2,649	3,269	1,234
June "	3,169	1,320	3,961	2,157	2,678	3,283	1,226
1955-56— September Quarter	A 3,215 | B 3,265	1,330	3,965	2,169	A 2,700 | B 2,719	3,299	A 1,222 | B 1,213
December "	3,239 | 3,308	1,337	3,971	2,218	2,721 | 2,746	3,345	1,229 | 1,218
March "	3,262 | 3,348	1,415	3,965	2,227	2,748 | 2,780	(c) 3,369	1,226 | 1,212
June "	3,343 | 3,495	1,425	3,971	2,305	2,797 | 2,851	(c) 3,436	1,228 | 1,205
1956-57— September Quarter	3,394 | 3,712	1,436	3,985	2,369	2,832 | 2,946	(c) 3,480	1,229 | 1,181
December "	3,380 | 3,559	1,446	4,024	2,418	2,849 | 2,913	(c) 3,524	1,243 | 1,216
March "	3,401 | 3,412	1,465	4,062	2,435	2,872 | 2,876	(c) 3,535	1,231 | 1,229
June "	3,406 | 3,429	1,483	4,100	2,468	2,893 | 2,901	(c) 3,579	1,237 | 1,234
1957-58— September Quarter	3,417 | 3,403	1,500	4,114	2,488	2,907 | 2,903	3,585	1,233 | 1,235
December "	3,381 | 3,350	1,512	4,139	2,498	2,905 | 2,893	3,592	1,236 | 1,242

(a) Indexes in Columns "A" exclude, and those in Columns "B" include, the price movement of potatoes and onions.
weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number.

(c) Partly estimated.

(b) Index of nominal

WAGE RATES AND AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS.

(Adult Males.)

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
<i>1956 : December Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,675	3,466	3,387	3,291	3,534	3,551	3,527
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	253/-	245/-	228/-	241/-	246/-	252/-	246/-
State " " " ..	(c) 274/-	(d) 263/-	(e) 241/-	(b) 241/-	(e) 265/2	(d) 272/-	..
<i>1957 : March Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,647	3,471	3,388	3,291	3,554	3,551	3,521
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	253/-	245/-	228/-	241/-	246/-	252/-	246/-
State " " " ..	(c) 270/-	(d) 263/-	(e) 241/-	(b) 241/-	(f) 266/3	(d) 272/-	..
<i>1957 : June Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate (a)	3,675	3,530	3,396	3,417	3,581	3,645	3,566
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (g)	263/-	255/-	238/-	251/-	256/-	262/-	256/-
State " " " ..	(c) 268/-	(d) 263/-	(h) 239/-	(i) 251/-	(j) 268/10	(d) 272/-	..
<i>1957 : September Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate (a)	3,691	3,532	3,416	3,418	3,626	3,645	3,578
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (g)	263/-	255/-	238/-	251/-	256/-	262/-	256/-
State " " " ..	(c) 270/-	(d) 263/-	(k) 241/-	(i) 251/-	(l) 272/9	(d) 272/-	..
<i>1957 : December Quarter—</i>							
Nominal weekly wage rate (a)	3,714	3,547	3,389	3,447	3,640	3,645	3,592
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (g)	263/-	255/-	238/-	251/-	256/-	262/-	256/-
State " " " ..	(c) 270/-	(d) 263/-	(k) 241/-	(i) 251/-	(l) 272/9	(d) 272/-	..

(a) Index numbers : Base—Weighted Average, Six States Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000. (b) Automatic adjustments discontinued. The rates shown came into operation from beginning of first pay-period commencing June, 1956. (c) Automatic adjustments operative. Rates payable as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the second month of the quarter shown. (d) Automatic adjustment discontinued. Rates shown came into operation from the beginning of the first pay-period in August, 1956. (e) Payable as from 29th October, 1956. (f) Payable as from 25th January, 1957. (g) Payable from the beginning of the first pay-period after 15th May, 1957. (h) Payable as from 29th April, 1957. (i) Payable as from 20th May, 1957. (j) Payable as from 26th April, 1957. (k) Payable as from 29th July, 1957. (l) Payable as from 19th July, 1957.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

The list of items covered by the Interim Index is representative of a high proportion of expenditure of wage earner households. It is more comprehensive than that of the "C" Series Index and some of the principal food weights and group weights differ substantially from those used in the "C" Series Index. The weighting pattern and the list of component items in the "C" Series Index relate to the pre-war pattern of wage earner expenditure and consumption, whilst those of the Interim Index relate to the consumption pattern of 1950-53.

(Base of each Group : Year 1952-53 = 100.)

Period.	Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.							
	Food.(a)		Clothing and Drapery.	Rent.	Other Items.	All Groups.(a)		
	A	B				A	B	
Year ended June—								
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
1954	102.8	103.7	101.6	105.0	100.9	102.2	102.5	
1955	104.8	104.6	102.4	109.6	101.4	103.7	103.6	
1956	108.1	110.6	103.3	115.5	106.4	107.0	108.0	
1957	112.4	115.8	105.8	122.5	117.8	113.0	114.3	
Quarter ended—								
1956—March ..	108.2	110.6	103.3	118.8	106.7	107.4	108.3	
June ..	110.7	114.5	103.4	119.7	110.1	109.4	110.8	
September ..	111.9	119.6	103.8	120.6	115.6	111.5	114.4	
December ..	111.6	116.2	105.3	121.5	117.8	112.5	114.2	
1957—March ..	112.6	113.2	106.3	123.1	118.5	113.5	113.7	
June ..	113.3	114.2	107.9	124.6	119.3	114.5	114.8	
September ..	113.7	113.8	108.4	126.1	119.9	115.1	115.1	
December ..	112.8	112.4	109.1	127.0	120.1	115.1	114.9	

(a) The indexes in Columns "A" exclude, and those in Columns "B" include, potatoes and onions.

FARM PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index numbers shown in the following table relate to average "prices" of farm products realized in the principal markets of Australia. The "price" data used are average unit values for the total quantities of the relevant commodities produced or marketed in each year and the index numbers therefore measure both the effects of changes in prices (as such) and of variations in the quality, type, usage, etc., of products marketed. The index numbers for any year relate to the average values of farm products produced or marketed in that year, irrespective of the periods in which payment is received by producers.

The index numbers shown below are the Revised Series (December, 1952) in which average quantities of each product marketed in the period 1946-47 to 1950-51 have been used as fixed weights.

The preliminary index numbers for 1956-57 are based mainly on the recorded or estimated movement in average values for the major farm products. They will be reviewed from time to time as further "price" data become available.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Year.	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Wool (Shorn and Dead).	Products Other than Wool.
1936-37	114	115	93	109	126	104
1937-38	98	98	102	99	95	100
1938-39	88	87	105	92	79	96
1948-49	234	313	197	260	366	225
1949-50	272	396	228	316	483	261
1950-51	291	818	258	505	1,098	308
1951-52	355	501	332	410	552	363
1952-53	364	531	387	440	623	379
1953-54	324	534	395	429	621	365
1954-55	316	489	371	401	540	355
1955-56	330	451	392	397	468	373
1956-57	p333	p532	p389	p431	p607	p372

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

SHARE PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the two sets of index numbers on this page, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the table.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)						Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	4 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	4 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 34 Miscellaneous).	34 Active shares in- cluded in foregoing (c)	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37	989	1,059	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38	1,012	1,008	1,053	983	1,009	1,011	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39	999	933	841	965	969	963	980	989	984
1952-53	1,733	1,376	1,337	2,059	1,398	1,335	1,494	1,186	1,353
1953-54	1,784	1,534	1,385	2,217	1,475	1,443	1,658	1,302	1,495
1954-55	1,943	1,885	1,555	2,184	1,626	1,598	1,695	1,434	1,575
1955-56	2,038	2,178	1,751	2,142	1,726	1,649	1,726	1,475	1,612
1956-57	2,031	1,960	1,807	2,489	1,707	1,653	1,714	1,467	1,600
1955-56—									
February	2,043	2,230	1,780	2,159	1,735	1,659	1,746	1,469	1,619
March	2,006	2,169	1,729	2,079	1,700	1,609	1,740	1,480	1,620
April	1,995	2,153	1,679	2,089	1,688	1,599	1,740	1,473	1,618
May	1,972	2,061	1,639	2,098	1,663	1,583	1,709	1,457	1,594
June	1,918	2,010	1,613	2,112	1,632	1,551	1,668	1,428	1,559
1956-57—									
July	1,909	1,973	1,668	2,140	1,626	1,556	1,689	1,431	1,570
August	1,944	2,002	1,718	2,268	1,657	1,608	1,699	1,426	1,574
September ..	1,997	2,004	1,740	2,400	1,689	1,639	1,704	1,447	1,586
October	2,034	2,006	1,797	2,468	1,702	1,652	1,700	1,474	1,597
November ..	2,000	1,963	1,772	2,537	1,682	1,626	1,699	1,461	1,590
December ..	2,008	1,929	1,732	2,506	1,674	1,620	1,682	1,456	1,579
January	2,067	1,949	1,829	2,594	1,719	1,678	1,667	1,467	1,575
February ..	2,078	1,974	1,850	2,625	1,743	1,693	1,725	1,473	1,609
March	2,084	1,931	1,825	2,571	1,735	1,671	1,745	1,481	1,624
April	2,088	1,937	1,922	2,567	1,746	1,696	1,748	1,487	1,628
May	2,080	1,926	1,917	2,564	1,752	1,697	1,761	1,503	1,642
June	2,080	1,924	1,914	2,627	1,763	1,701	1,747	1,493	1,630
1957-58—									
July	2,151	1,922	1,995	2,747	1,815	1,757	1,755	1,509	1,642
August	2,192	1,965	2,100	2,870	1,869	1,811	1,832	1,530	1,693
September ..	2,219	1,979	2,013	2,864	1,883	1,824	1,863	1,532	1,711
October	2,132	1,935	1,897	2,774	1,810	1,750	1,826	1,534	1,692
November ..	2,146	1,956	1,922	2,747	1,808	1,780	1,838	1,568	1,714
December ..	2,161	1,965	1,844	2,766	1,798	1,777	1,823	1,559	1,701
January	2,179	1,985	1,833	2,782	1,821	1,808	1,818	1,469	1,658
February ..	2,225	2,005	1,894	2,838	1,862	1,846			

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician ; converted from original base, par values. The index numbers relate to the prices of ordinary shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange of principal companies (excluding banks) whose business in New South Wales is extensive. The prices of individual shares are unweighted and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made for changes in the capital structure of the companies. (b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928. (c) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

COMPARISON OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Export Prices.				Wholesale Prices.				Retail Prices.		
	Wool.	All Groups.			Basic Materials.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.		
		Excluding Wool.	Excluding Gold.	Total.		Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home-produced. (b)	All Groups. (b)	"C" Series Index.(c)	Interim Index.(d)	
1936-37 ..	122	108	116	115	99	99	98	99	97.3	Base : 1952-53 = 100	
1937-38 ..	99	105	102	102	102	102	101	101	99.8	(Arithmetically converted for comparison.)	
1938-39 ..	79	87	82	83	99	99	100	100	102.9		
1949-50 ..	473	308	399	383	214	223	196	204	166.9		
1950-51 ..	999	365	690	654	264	256	240	244	190.6	74.8	74.9
1951-52 ..	564	397	495	473	321	288	300	297	233.7	91.7	91.4
1952-53 ..	616	371	505	483	350	292	331	319	255.0	100.0	100.0
1953-54 ..	615	356	496	474	332	271	339	319	262.2	102.8	102.5
1954-55 ..	538	342	450	431	330	277	340	322	264.4	103.7	103.6
1955-56 ..	464	342	414	397	345	292	352	334	(e)	(e)	(e)
1956-57 ..	578	331	464	444	367	311	357	344	(e)	(e)	(e)
1955-56—											
January ..	460	349	416	400	343	288	348	330	}	(e)	(e)
February ..	460	340	411	395	343	288	346	329		(e)	(e)
March ..	453	335	404	388	350	299	354	338		(e)	(e)
April ..	468	325	406	390	353	303	355	339	}	(e)	(e)
May ..	498	323	420	403	357	304	361	344		(e)	(e)
June ..	(f)505	331	428	411	357	299	358	341		(e)	(e)
1956-57—											
July ..	490	330	420	403	358	301	360	343	}	(e)	(e)
August ..	520	330	434	417	362	303	361	344		(e)	(e)
September ..	566	336	460	441	368	309	363	347		(e)	(e)
October ..	551	332	451	432	367	310	359	344	}	(e)	(e)
November ..	581	331	465	445	369	314	354	342		(e)	(e)
December ..	588	329	467	447	369	315	355	343		(e)	(e)
January ..	596	330	472	451	369	316	354	343	}	(e)	(e)
February ..	611	330	479	458	370	318	356	345		(e)	(e)
March ..	596	329	471	451	368	315	356	344		(e)	(e)
April ..	618	331	483	462	369	313	358	344	}	(e)	(e)
May ..	626	333	488	467	367	311	352	340		(e)	(e)
June ..	596	332	473	452	365	307	360	345		(e)	(e)
1957-58—											
July ..	(f) 596	327	470	450	364	305	365	347	}	(e)	(e)
August ..	551	331	450	431	363	306	368	350		(e)	(e)
September ..	543	328	445	426	361	303	365	346		(e)	(e)
October ..	498	323	420	403	358	304	353	338	}	(e)	(e)
November ..	483	314	407	391	357	308	345	334		(e)	(e)
December ..	445	p310	p386	p372	r355	p304	p348	p335		(e)	(e)
January ..	p453	pr309	pr389	pr374	pr355	p302	pr349	p335	}		
February ..	p468	p306	p395	p379	p355	p301	p350	p335			

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in price of all imports.
 (b) See note (c) page 24. (c) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (d) See note at head of page 28.
 (e) For indexes for these periods see pages 26 and 28 and Statistical Bulletin No. 572. (f) Nominal.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by local government authorities. Excluding government buildings except as indicated in note (a), page 33.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
Monthly Average—		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1936-37(a) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38(a) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39(a) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1949-50(b) ..	3,045	5,770	113	460	3,158	6,230	899	7,129
1950-51 ..	3,558	7,857	151	1,062	3,709	8,919	1,507	10,426
1951-52 ..	2,736	6,703	165	1,270	2,901	7,973	1,727	9,700
1952-53 ..	2,506	6,472	303	1,744	2,809	8,216	1,829	10,045
1953-54 ..	2,663	7,747	328	2,538	2,991	10,285	2,071	12,356
1954-55(c) ..	3,673	11,244	378	4,083	4,051	15,327	2,593	17,920
1955-56 ..	3,361	11,040	337	5,005	3,698	16,045	2,847	18,892
1956-57 ..	3,114	10,495	328	4,279	3,442	14,774	2,653	17,427
Monthly Total—								
1955-56—								
February ..	3,169	10,380	330	5,428	3,499	15,808	2,928	18,736
March ..	3,311	11,007	353	6,061	3,664	17,068	3,259	20,327
April ..	2,815	10,429	294	4,334	3,109	14,763	2,992	17,755
May ..	3,366	11,744	377	7,011	3,743	18,755	3,531	22,286
June ..	3,242	10,969	314	4,177	3,556	15,146	2,987	18,133
1956-57—								
July ..	3,089	10,262	374	5,536	3,463	15,798	3,075	18,873
August ..	3,186	10,959	329	3,989	3,515	14,948	3,099	18,047
September ..	2,826	9,481	292	3,839	3,118	13,320	2,416	15,736
October ..	3,258	11,013	377	4,894	3,635	15,907	3,444	19,351
November ..	3,477	11,138	319	4,372	3,796	15,510	2,754	18,264
December ..	2,260	7,273	271	3,000	2,531	10,273	1,820	12,093
January ..	2,725	9,178	264	4,067	2,989	13,245	2,155	15,400
February ..	3,068	10,477	293	3,540	3,361	14,017	2,416	16,433
March ..	3,139	10,822	356	4,320	3,495	15,142	2,790	17,932
April ..	3,210	10,545	282	3,320	3,492	13,865	2,398	16,263
May ..	3,801	13,353	394	4,703	4,195	18,056	3,284	21,340
June ..	3,327	11,439	381	5,769	3,708	17,208	2,184	19,392
1957-58—								
July ..	3,753	12,992	394	3,891	4,147	16,883	3,216	20,099
August ..	3,986	13,384	404	4,246	4,390	17,630	3,737	21,367
September ..	3,522	12,593	325	4,303	3,847	16,896	2,893	19,789
October ..	3,528	12,406	373	3,340	3,901	15,746	3,033	18,779
November ..	3,269	11,164	351	3,338	3,620	14,502	2,876	17,378
December ..	2,413	8,967	229	2,483	2,642	11,450	2,019	13,469
January ..	3,351	11,123	287	5,764	3,638	16,887	2,772	19,659
February ..	3,155	10,768	346	3,778	3,501	14,546	2,455	17,001

(a) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (b) From July, 1947, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Melbourne. For details see November, 1956, issue of this publication. (c) From July, 1954, includes additional areas in the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. For details see November, 1956, issue of this publication.

For meaning of symbol——, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day-labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales.			Victoria.		
	Government.	Private. (a)		Government. (b)	Private.		Government.	Private.	
	Common-wealth and State.	Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.	Common-wealth and State.	Sydney Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note A.	Common-wealth and State.	Melbourne Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note B.
Monthly Average—									
1936-37 ..	n.a.	(c)1,986	(d)627	n.a.	848	416	n.a.	667	62
1937-38 ..	n.a.	(c)2,307	(d)764	n.a.	1,093	506	n.a.	669	78
1938-39 ..	408	(c)2,353	(d)755	187	1,111	495	107	702	63
1951-52 ..	3,631	(e)9,700	(f)7,877	1,603	2,679	(g)3,717	960	(e)2,831	(h)1,947
1952-53 ..	2,772	10,045	7,671	923	2,799	3,542	1,129	2,906	1,931
1953-54 ..	(i)4,619	12,356	9,693	1,912	3,553	4,622	1,653	3,890	2,297
1954-55 ..	5,936	j17,920	(j)8,379	2,461	(k)6,340	(k)3,550	1,779	(k)5,598	(k)1,812
1955-56 ..	5,845	18,892	9,034	2,399	6,742	3,364	1,559	6,163	2,240
1956-57 ..	5,170	17,427	8,874	2,467	6,365	3,323	1,432	5,648	1,991
 1955-56—									
March Qtr.	4,398	17,905	7,895	1,156	6,778	3,121	1,500	5,692	1,942
June ..	5,885	19,392	9,239	2,991	7,016	3,394	1,427	6,565	1,919
 1956-57—									
September ..	5,705	17,552	8,487	2,923	6,112	3,198	1,382	6,147	1,848
December ..	4,691	16,569	8,724	2,264	5,769	2,908	918	5,138	2,084
March ..	6,062	16,588	7,924	2,770	6,299	2,981	2,098	5,455	1,833
June ..	4,222	18,998	10,366	1,911	7,280	4,207	1,331	5,851	2,199
 1957-58—									
September ..	5,378	20,418	r10,447	2,762	7,214	4,165	1,150	6,992	2,096
December ..	6,039	16,542	9,508	1,878	5,457	4,090	2,549	6,196	2,094
Monthly Total—									
 1956-57—									
April ..	4,216	16,263	n.a.	2,295	5,672	3,504	1,241	5,701	1,986
May ..	3,795	21,340	n.a.	1,442	8,428	4,773	1,661	6,194	2,576
June ..	4,657	19,392	n.a.	1,997	7,739	4,345	1,092	5,659	2,036
 1957-58—									
July ..	5,160	20,099	n.a.	2,642	7,146	4,398	1,341	7,186	2,084
August ..	5,169	21,367	n.a.	2,505	7,188	3,392	1,202	7,097	1,971
September ..	5,805	19,789	n.a.	3,139	7,307	4,705	907	6,692	2,233
October ..	6,358	18,779	n.a.	2,859	6,239	4,384	1,467	7,137	2,309
November ..	3,761	17,378	n.a.	862	5,900	4,114	1,560	6,330	2,137
December ..	7,959	13,469	n.a.	1,914	4,231	3,772	4,619	5,122	1,837
January ..	3,989	19,659	n.a.	1,459	7,707	3,304	924	6,080	1,905
February ..		17,001	n.a.	1,514	6,028	3,946		6,559	2,088

(a) See note (a) on page 33. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (d) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (e) From July, 1947, the metropolitan area of Melbourne includes some additional areas. For details see November, 1956, issue of this publication. (f) See A and B below and C and F, page 33. (g) See A below. (h) See B below. (i) See note (f), page 33. (j) See note (k) this page and note (g), page 33. (k) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas". For details see November, 1956, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.
B. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Horsham, Mildura, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale, Shepparton and Warrnambool to June quarter, 1950, thereafter all areas outside Melbourne and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., r, —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Government. Common-wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Government.(b) Common-wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Government. Common-wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Government. Common-wealth and State.	Private.(a)	
		Brisbane Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note C.		Adelaide Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note D.		Perth Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note E.		Hobart Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note F.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37 ..	n.a.	153	98	n.a.	118	32	n.a.	168	n.a.	n.a.	32	19
1937-38 ..	n.a.	167	114	n.a.	173	48	n.a.	174	n.a.	n.a.	31	18
1938-39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	n.a.	20	32	16
1951-52 ..	228	1,426	c1,107	377	1,386	265	379	1,120	347	84	(d) 258	(e) 494
1952-53 ..	232	1,376	1,209	226	1,525	336	219	1,157	320	43	282	333
1953-54 ..	(f) 303	1,299	1,404	320	1,485	392	314	1,749	548	117	380	430
1954-55 ..	489	1,449	1,545	475	2,170	463	570	1,941	535	162	(g) 422	(g) 474
1955-56 ..	545	1,679	1,669	959	2,403	812	277	1,494	413	106	411	536
1956-57 ..	346	1,553	1,850	482	1,911	698	234	1,470	435	209	480	577
1955-56—												
Mar. Qtr.	559	1,364	1,370	772	2,397	493	359	1,233	416	52	441	553
June ..	680	1,937	1,972	487	2,362	960	158	1,169	386	142	343	608
1956-57—												
Sept. ..	405	1,528	1,544	417	1,878	886	197	1,323	467	381	564	544
Dec. ..	277	1,893	2,228	800	1,698	644	202	1,663	424	230	408	436
Mar. ..	358	1,200	1,467	479	1,819	614	282	1,387	426	75	428	603
June ..	344	1,591	2,161	233	2,248	648	254	1,508	424	149	520	727
1957-58—												
Sept. ..	577	1,513	2,223	381	2,395	905	339	1,854	567	169	450	491
Dec. ..	379	1,469	1,785	508	1,830	622	553	1,167	456	172	423	461
Monthly Total—												
1956-57—												
April ..	216	1,355	2,461	137	1,664	n.a.	139	1,366	414	188	505	718
May ..	177	1,822	2,103	208	2,735	n.a.	117	1,670	467	190	491	830
June ..	638	1,598	1,920	354	2,346	n.a.	507	1,486	391	69	564	633
1957-58—												
July ..	188	1,582	2,500	394	2,074	n.a.	558	1,591	611	37	520	437
August ..	582	1,461	2,132	499	2,704	n.a.	177	2,455	690	204	462	520
September ..	960	1,498	2,037	251	2,409	n.a.	283	1,516	400	265	367	516
October ..	334	1,514	2,137	608	2,101	n.a.	982	1,445	514	108	343	485
November ..	254	1,361	1,748	480	1,926	n.a.	227	1,253	414	378	608	466
December ..	548	1,530	1,469	436	1,463	n.a.	452	803	438	30	320	431
January ..	448	1,919	1,306	811	2,612	n.a.	246	1,043	322	101	298	505
February ..	525	1,321	1,628	394	1,611	n.a.	275	951	455	415	531	537

(a) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local government authorities.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) See C below. (d) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946, includes the whole metropolitan area of Hobart. (e) See F below. (f) From June quarter, 1954, includes the approvals of Hospital Boards not previously collected. (g) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas". For details see November, 1956, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes local government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., —, see page 1.

VALUE (WHEN COMPLETED) OF NEW BUILDINGS.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Commenced.			Completed.			Under Construction at end of period.		
	Houses and Flats.	Other.	Total.	Houses and Flats.	Other.	Total.	Houses and Flats.	Other.	Total.
Quarterly Average—									
1951-52 ..	(a)45,516	15,182	(a)60,698	44,262	9,801	54,063	a185,632	117,513	a303,145
1952-53 ..	(a)39,490	13,274	(a)52,764	49,294	16,509	65,803	a159,142	110,951	a270,093
1953-54 ..	(a)49,259	22,934	(a)72,193	49,778	19,764	69,542	a163,978	128,450	a292,428
1954-55(b) ..	53,263	31,536	84,799	55,507	22,824	78,331	163,158	164,553	327,711
1955-56 ..	53,021	41,209	94,230	56,564	31,437	88,001	156,573	213,392	369,965
1956-57 ..	52,357	37,906	90,263	52,438	37,736	90,174	161,474	223,200	384,674
Quarterly Total—									
1955-56—									
Dec. Qtr. ..	54,107	36,438	90,545	59,811	33,431	93,242	162,363	186,683	349,046
March „ ..	51,414	43,989	95,403	52,724	30,668	83,392	163,009	202,169	365,178
June „ ..	49,204	42,066	91,270	57,575	33,296	90,871	156,573	213,392	369,965
1956-57—									
Sept. „ ..	50,776	46,250	97,026	53,246	35,149	88,395	155,747	227,363	383,110
Dec. „ ..	50,821	34,555	85,376	55,046	34,444	89,490	152,769	228,775	381,544
March „ ..	51,692	36,340	88,032	47,629	40,697	88,326	157,741	226,405	384,146
June „ ..	56,141	34,478	90,619	53,830	40,654	94,484	161,474	223,200	384,674
1957-58—									
Sept. „ ..	59,149	39,177	98,326	53,879	55,026	108,905	168,065	209,689	377,754
Dec. „ ..	53,014	31,753	84,767	61,801	44,466	106,267	160,588	199,316	359,904

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) From September quarter, 1954, includes Northern Territory.

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)

(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
Quarterly Average—									
1951-52 ..	19,052	17,231	6,335	4,531	3,606	2,628	680	n.a.	54,063
1952-53 ..	24,512	19,148	6,558	6,471	5,730	2,666	718	n.a.	65,803
1953-54 ..	25,386	21,312	6,478	6,527	6,446	2,423	970	n.a.	69,542
1954-55 ..	27,674	24,471	7,079	6,770	8,524	2,665	735	413	78,331
1955-56 ..	31,035	27,733	7,630	8,429	8,419	3,199	1,072	484	88,001
1956-57 ..	33,274	28,491	8,846	8,499	5,856	3,152	1,485	571	90,174
Quarterly Total—									
1955-56—									
Dec. Qtr. ..	33,254	29,725	8,598	8,219	9,050	2,861	964	571	93,242
Mar. „ ..	27,387	28,933	6,503	7,941	7,574	3,535	1,102	417	83,392
June „ ..	33,100	27,798	8,005	10,029	7,508	2,933	1,001	497	90,871
1956-57—									
Sept. „ ..	31,805	28,954	8,553	7,901	6,485	2,930	1,073	694	88,395
Dec. „ ..	30,197	29,111	8,406	8,958	5,954	3,030	3,091	743	89,490
Mar. „ ..	35,794	25,730	8,655	8,588	5,107	2,214	889	349	88,326
June „ ..	35,298	30,168	9,769	8,550	5,878	3,435	887	499	94,484
1957-58—									
Sept. „ ..	44,859	33,204	9,815	9,012	6,297	3,192	1,828	698	108,905
Dec. „ ..	40,688	31,954	10,263	10,178	8,044	3,312	1,326	502	106,267

For meaning of symbols, n.a., —, see page 1.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES AND FLATS (a).

(Including Owner-built Houses.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total
COMMENCED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1951-52	(b)6,132	5,985	3,008	2,142	1,983	900	81	n.a.	(b)20,231
1952-53	(b)5,104	4,186	2,371	1,992	1,795	572	132	n.a.	(b)16,152
1953-54	(b)7,098	5,415	2,179	1,737	2,015	681	96	n.a.	(b)19,221
1954-55	6,282	5,964	2,016	1,816	2,239	738	192	62	19,309
1955-56	6,096	5,490	1,847	2,127	1,672	631	207	85	18,155
1956-57	6,080	5,189	1,963	1,782	1,429	665	192	63	17,363
Quarterly Total—									
1955-56—Dec. Qtr.	6,326	5,390	1,848	2,227	1,800	648	327	70	18,636
Mar. „	5,699	5,730	1,743	2,003	1,518	594	111	71	17,469
June „	5,590	5,146	1,796	1,915	1,361	689	51	112	16,660
1956-57—Sept. „	5,839	4,950	2,265	1,837	1,204	539	104	103	16,841
Dec. „	5,782	5,075	2,184	1,857	1,299	616	99	82	16,994
Mar. „	5,949	5,211	1,766	1,620	1,644	754	161	28	17,133
June „	6,751	5,519	1,637	1,813	1,571	751	405	38	18,485
1957-58—Sept. „	6,703	5,480	1,986	2,058	1,686	633	301	73	18,920
Dec. „	6,057	5,392	1,612	1,778	1,249	582	340	38	17,048
COMPLETED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1951-52	6,144	6,126	2,958	1,928	1,698	1,005	171	n.a.	20,030
1952-53	6,638	5,483	2,663	2,250	2,016	832	159	n.a.	20,041
1953-54	6,881	5,571	2,279	1,905	1,960	661	138	n.a.	19,395
1954-55	7,396	6,155	2,059	1,857	2,277	632	102	50	20,528
1955-56	6,786	5,981	1,899	1,952	2,086	693	151	78	19,626
1956-57	5,782	5,271	1,848	1,856	1,349	716	206	82	17,110
Quarterly Total—									
1955-56—Dec. Qtr.	6,688	6,617	1,985	2,029	2,480	731	156	80	20,766
Mar. „	6,163	5,618	1,722	1,851	1,816	711	149	76	18,106
June „	7,107	5,767	1,864	1,985	1,997	724	168	80	19,692
1956-57—Sept. „	5,582	5,644	1,759	1,859	1,439	799	183	99	17,364
Dec. „	5,841	5,523	1,996	2,084	1,419	815	347	86	18,111
Mar. „	5,703	4,651	1,745	1,678	1,055	545	134	53	15,564
June „	6,002	5,266	1,891	1,802	1,482	705	161	90	17,399
1957-58—Sept. „	5,824	5,111	2,030	2,020	1,664	665	122	85	17,521
Dec. „	6,918	6,101	1,979	2,134	1,922	706	223	62	20,045
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.									
1951-52	(b)30,501	27,643	5,162	7,507	7,084	3,155	754	n.a.	(b)81,806
1952-53	(b)24,484	22,396	3,993	6,520	6,186	2,115	646	n.a.	(b)66,340
1953-54	(b)25,348	21,766	3,593	5,865	6,406	2,195	477	n.a.	(b)65,650
1954-55	20,875	21,000	3,421	5,684	6,253	2,621	837	211	60,902
1955-56	18,103	19,014	3,213	6,373	4,596	2,375	1,057	240	54,971
1956-57	19,248	18,649	3,674	6,038	4,919	2,171	1,001	163	55,863
Quarterly Total—									
1955-56—Dec. Qtr. „	20,088	19,544	3,260	6,294	5,530	2,527	1,212	213	58,668
Mar. „	19,620	19,648	3,281	6,446	5,232	2,410	1,174	208	58,019
June „	18,103	19,014	3,213	6,373	4,596	2,375	1,057	240	54,971
1956-57—Sept. „	18,358	18,320	3,719	6,348	4,361	2,115	978	244	54,443
Dec. „	18,263	17,872	3,907	6,114	4,241	1,916	730	240	53,283
Mar. „	18,506	18,396	3,928	6,027	4,830	2,125	757	215	54,784
June „	19,248	18,649	3,674	6,038	4,919	2,171	1,001	163	55,863
1957-58—Sept. „	20,127	19,018	3,630	6,076	4,941	2,139	1,180	151	57,262
Dec. „	19,267	18,309	3,263	5,720	4,268	2,015	1,297	127	54,266

(a) Individual living units. Only new flats are included, i.e., the conversions of old buildings into flats are omitted.

(b) Partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF COAL, ENERGY AND METALS.

Period.	Black Coal.			Brown Coal.	Gold, (Mine Production). (a)	Heat, Light and Power.		Metals.				
	Under-ground.	Open Cut.	Total.			Gas made in Gas-works.	Total Electricity Generated.	Pig Iron.	Ingot Steel.	Zinc, Refined. (b)	Lead, Refined and Lead in Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kWh.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Monthly Average—								(c)	(c)			
1936-37 ..	976	1	977	258	108.2	1,679	331	76.1	90.0	5,840	17,562	1,280
1937-38 ..	988	2	990	300	123.3	1,746	363	77.5	97.2	5,810	18,797	1,437
1938-39 ..	1,048	3	1,051	267	135.1	1,789	391	92.1	97.5	5,819	19,416	1,457
1950-51 ..	1,127	241	1,368	608	74.3	3,075	875	109.4	120.3	6,478	15,682	936
1951-52 ..	1,243	355	1,598	675	75.7	3,366	941	119.2	126.8	7,011	15,680	1,485
1952-53 ..	1,251	294	1,545	673	86.5	3,439	1,004	141.0	150.1	7,181	16,030	1,595
1953-54 ..	1,362	257	1,619	728	92.6	3,508	1,142	152.2	176.4	8,263	19,669	1,742
1954-55 ..	1,393	220	1,613	806	90.0	3,622	1,264	155.7	184.1	8,372	19,613	2,533
1955-56 ..	1,403	183	1,586	865	86.0	3,719	1,399	159.2	193.4	8,659	18,399	2,039
1956-57 p ..	1,468	173	1,641	898	88.5	3,878	1,531	174.8	237.8	8,879	19,982	2,877
Monthly Total—												
1955-56—												
February	1,298	149	1,447	787	77.3	3,085	1,299	163.4	189.1	8,025	17,342	n.a.
March ..	1,308	171	1,479	839	78.2	3,350	1,389	172.3	198.6	8,527	17,616	
April ..	1,359	188	1,547	838	77.5	3,506	1,356	167.5	184.0	8,373	17,158	
May ..	1,566	208	1,774	928	87.7	4,061	1,545	180.5	214.6	8,844	17,732	
June ..	1,496	195	1,691	907	93.5	4,341	1,565	171.8	217.0	7,927	17,886	
1956-57 p—												
July ..	1,642	210	1,852	968	93.7	4,654	1,655	179.4	230.3	9,728	24,402	n.a.
August ..	1,717	213	1,930	983	84.1	4,526	1,652	152.1	206.6	8,906	21,041	
September	1,521	182	1,703	930	90.7	4,078	1,500	178.4	228.6	8,785	20,831	
October ..	1,709	192	1,901	951	86.5	3,960	1,538	158.0	226.5	9,052	21,161	
November	1,636	201	1,837	892	96.1	3,679	1,486	187.7	247.7	8,776	20,354	
December	1,125	146	1,271	723	83.0	3,421	1,394	193.4	247.0	9,365	19,650	1,366 3,555 3,498 3,288 2,734 1,849
January ..	976	111	1,087	830	84.4	3,279	1,410	189.9	260.4	9,077	18,732	
February	1,476	149	1,625	835	80.7	3,158	1,388	170.9	237.5	8,152	17,118	
March ..	1,453	159	1,612	892	88.6	3,584	1,543	174.4	254.5	9,030	18,024	
April ..	1,372	158	1,530	887	90.7	3,629	1,502	168.1	246.9	8,962	17,188	
May ..	1,575	199	1,774	966	87.3	4,313	1,693	173.3	250.5	9,229	21,253	
June ..	1,420	159	1,579	916	96.5	4,257	1,616	181.7	246.8	7,482	20,034	
1957-58 p—												
July ..	1,711	202	1,913	986	106.2	4,965	1,817	198.8	264.2	10,919	19,988	2,666
August ..	1,654	191	1,845	973	86.9	4,708	1,773	196.3	271.7	9,532	21,839	1,864
September	1,636	188	1,824	907	87.8	4,378	1,641	182.2	261.5	9,196	20,313	2,521
October	1,713	191	1,904	917	88.8	4,109	1,666	188.0	263.9	9,669	21,732	2,774
November	1,619	176	1,795	876	91.9	3,729	1,584	192.0	246.4	9,394	21,926	3,105
December	1,179	114	1,293	749	94.3	3,521	1,530	202.1	250.9	9,728	21,097	2,832
January ..				851	90.7		1,519	197.5	269.9	9,657	21,050	1,340
February				807	82.4			172.6	232.6	8,609	18,865	2,694

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia.
Association.

(b) Source: Bureau of Mineral Resources and Australian Mines and Metals

(c) Monthly averages for twelve months ended May.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p., see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.							Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigerators.
	Clay Bricks.	Roofing Tiles.		Cement Building Sheets.	Sawn Native Timber. (a)	Portland Cement.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas.(b)	Electric. (c)	
		Terra-cotta.	Cement.								
Monthly Average—	Million.	'000.	'000.	'000 sq. yds. (d)	Million sup. ft.	'000 tons.	'000 sq. yds.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1936-37 ..	53.1	2,630	326	522	53.6	60.0	567	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1937-38 ..	57.4	3,023	430	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938-39 ..	60.0	3,307	374	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1950-51 ..	57.4	3,918	4,230	1,771	105.1	102.9	1,265	6,251	4,613	3,733	16,994
1951-52 ..	60.0	4,072	5,540	1,944	116.0	103.1	1,373	5,975	4,251	4,240	16,066
1952-53 ..	55.6	4,831	3,338	2,022	111.6	119.9	1,285	3,994	2,978	1,883	15,179
1953-54 ..	66.8	5,315	3,721	2,174	116.7	141.7	1,349	4,198	3,587	3,098	22,874
1954-55 ..	69.9	5,328	4,477	2,340	120.8	160.0	1,482	4,147	4,897	3,929	23,381
1955-56 ..	70.0	5,392	4,483	2,208	121.2	169.6	1,510	3,942	4,753	3,984	20,617
1956-57 p..	67.1	4,837	3,879	2,035	119.2	186.3	1,307	3,731	4,539	4,291	16,077
Monthly Total—							(e)				
1955-56 p—											
January ..	52.3	3,801	3,339	1,340	91.9	135.4	1,034	2,479	3,017	2,842	19,604
February ..	66.8	5,445	4,390	2,236	111.7	152.4	1,473	3,790	3,962	4,183	18,611
March ..	66.8	5,113	4,486	2,176	105.3	171.4	1,392	3,294	3,307	3,576	17,196
April ..	65.1	5,039	4,130	2,299	96.6	168.6	1,348	3,272	3,111	3,165	11,515
May ..	71.5	5,921	4,441	2,485	126.8	181.8	1,520	4,195	2,896	4,173	12,938
June ..	65.2	5,196	3,953	2,364	125.1	175.5	1,364	4,182	2,938	3,771	13,044
1956-57 p—											
July ..	70.2	5,184	3,973	1,990	116.9	179.6	1,399	4,126	5,712	4,494	14,478
August ..	72.4	5,431	4,110	2,042	125.4	197.5	1,429	4,418	6,428	4,922	15,929
September ..	66.3	5,102	3,889	2,155	125.3	176.8	1,311	3,626	5,345	4,383	19,292
October..	74.6	5,521	4,337	2,113	139.5	203.6	1,422	4,670	5,901	5,399	26,480
November ..	70.9	4,959	3,719	2,015	141.5	191.6	1,403	3,625	4,994	5,476	23,744
December ..	51.7	3,847	2,714	1,869	115.8	167.1	1,028	2,916	3,403	4,146	18,926
January..	50.2	3,356	2,880	1,293	92.3	151.8	1,024	2,824	2,814	2,587	16,143
February ..	65.7	4,626	3,904	1,995	113.2	171.2	1,321	2,834	3,822	3,612	13,106
March ..	69.8	4,712	3,970	2,362	112.4	199.9	1,338	3,746	3,999	4,348	12,957
April ..	67.9	4,817	4,069	1,914	107.4	197.7	1,260	3,707	3,625	3,964	10,567
May ..	77.7	5,551	4,928	2,388	123.2	203.7	1,449	4,709	4,636	4,671	11,409
June ..	68.0	4,940	4,059	2,284	121.1	195.2	1,300	3,573	3,794	3,484	9,888
1957-58 p—											
July ..	r77.8	5,511	4,513	2,181	115.4	207.1	r1,451	4,080	4,792	5,753	11,428
August ..	r75.4	r5,115	4,467	2,274	119.5	200.4	r1,418	4,475	5,277	4,227	12,692
September ..	r75.1	5,209	4,068	2,091	115.4	186.1	r1,437	4,178	5,878	4,320	16,347
October..	r82.6	5,538	4,626	2,185	131.6	202.0	r1,604	5,352	6,315	5,255	21,972
November ..	r79.4	r5,123	4,369	2,485	126.9	200.8	r1,495	r4,469	5,418	5,050	24,552
December ..	r61.5	r4,137	3,258	1,621	114.5	169.2	r1,122	3,108	4,308	4,431	r21,283
January ..	56.7	3,767	3,196	1,285		166.6	1,148	2,522	3,816	3,141	17,975

(a) Includes sawn sleepers. (b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1947-48—thereafter household cooking stoves only. (c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stovettes and cookers to 1944-45—thereafter household cooking stoves only. (d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944-45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation. (e) From July, 1955, represents total production in all establishments and includes small quantities not previously recorded in some States.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

Period.	Cotton Textiles.		Pure Rayon Fabrics.	Wool Textiles.			Boots and Shoes (not Rubber).
	Cotton Yarn.	Cotton Woven Textiles (excl. Towels and Towelling).		Scoured and Carbonized Wool.	Yarn.	Woven Cloth.	
	'000 ib.	'000 sq. yds.	'000 sq. yds.	Million lb.	Million lb.	Million sq. yds.	'000 pairs.
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	730	n.a.	n.a.	8.4	2.14	2.04	1,208
1937-38	965	n.a.	n.a.	7.9	2.51	2.47	1,176
1938-39	974	n.a.	n.a.	8.8	2.71	2.65	1,164
1950-51	2,938	2,537	905	12.7	3.87	3.16	1,409
1951-52	2,872	2,617	905	10.1	3.04	2.42	1,400
1952-53	2,302	2,052	1,289	10.3	2.97	2.39	1,374
1953-54	3,175	2,678	1,686	11.4	3.83	2.73	1,548
1954-55	3,458	2,753	1,259	11.3	3.56	2.38	1,492
1955-56	3,379	3,222	1,308	12.1	3.60	2.33	1,501
1956-57 p	3,555	3,856	1,878	13.7	4.02	2.74	1,607
Monthly Total—							
1955-56 p—							
January	2,414	2,494	1,105	9.1	2.39	1.63	957
February	3,644	3,282	1,476	12.1	3.97	2.57	1,502
March	3,301	3,222	1,351	12.6	4.04	2.41	1,577
April	3,189	3,321	1,526	11.6	3.54	2.12	1,456
May	3,730	3,945	1,500	14.2	4.47	2.63	1,740
June	3,423	3,579	1,516	14.7	4.08	2.32	1,560
1956-57 p—							
July	3,653	3,899	1,627	13.4	3.81	2.54	1,677
August	3,982	4,144	1,536	13.3	4.29	2.81	1,831
September	3,521	3,831	1,575	11.9	4.01	2.71	1,668
October	4,029	4,276	1,714	13.2	4.55	3.20	1,878
November	3,561	3,938	1,765	13.8	4.19	2.92	1,712
December	2,554	2,852	1,252	12.3	3.00	2.06	1,208
January	2,939	3,128	1,761	11.9	2.97	2.20	1,088
February	3,571	4,014	2,017	14.7	4.33	2.92	1,547
March	3,598	3,851	2,443	14.6	4.32	2.96	1,659
April	3,458	3,875	2,053	13.9	4.07	2.73	1,601
May	4,134	4,476	2,297	16.0	4.71	3.11	1,849
June	3,659	3,982	2,496	15.3	3.98	2.66	1,563
1957-58 p—							
July	r4,297	4,435	2,425	r15.6	r4.36	2.99	1,737
August	r3,829	3,929	2,168	13.2	r4.08	2.82	1,698
September	r3,723	3,761	2,165	12.5	r4.06	2.93	r1,695
October	r4,202	3,989	2,096	13.5	4.48	3.17	r1,873
November	r3,924	r3,709	1,735	13.9	r4.15	3.03	r1,740
December	r2,822	r2,617	1,260	r12.2	r3.14	2.16	1,294
January	2,977	3,065	1,188	10.5	3.08	2.20	1,074

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING—continued.

Period.	Hosiery.				Underwear.(a)		Shirts, Men's and Boys'.
	Men's. (b)	Women's. Full Fash. and Circular. (c)	Children's.	Anklelets (All Types) and Infants' and Babies' Wear.	Men's, Youths' and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	
	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	83.1	157.1	(d)49.1	(e)	191.8		(f)60.6
1937-38	86.7	183.7	(d)52.0	(e)	227.6		(f)69.9
1938-39	91.9	178.0	(d)51.0	(e)	229.2		(f)56.2
1950-51	128.0	123.1	(d)78.6	(e)	107.7	201.9	89.5
1951-52	121.8	128.7	(g)	65.3	105.6	196.6	96.5
1952-53	131.2	156.4		73.6	93.6	173.7	73.4
1953-54	157.9	179.1		101.2	120.8	224.4	103.3
1954-55	138.7	201.8		93.9	119.6	235.4	117.5
1955-56	130.0	192.0		88.6	130.3	234.4	109.1
1956-57 p ..	120.9	236.1	66.6	(h) 9.2	138.1	242.4	117.9
Monthly Total—							
1955-56 p—							
January	87.2	112.4	(g)	59.9	77.6	147.7	44.9
February	137.8	191.7		91.6	141.3	246.8	85.5
March	129.9	199.9		92.7	138.6	234.1	84.3
April	121.3	179.5		80.5	120.9	214.1	81.9
May	150.5	216.0		94.2	146.6	254.0	108.5
June	135.1	228.0		85.1	113.4	226.8	105.6
1956-57 p—				(h)			
July	120.3	246.0	75.5	11.7	143.1	257.4	127.7
August	138.9	256.4	74.9	11.2	143.3	265.1	146.8
September ..	133.1	242.4	71.7	10.5	143.0	240.9	139.1
October	150.7	274.8	76.0	12.0	171.2	297.5	165.6
November ..	134.6	259.4	70.3	10.8	156.2	280.0	146.3
December ..	91.4	188.6	55.0	7.7	116.9	221.2	102.2
January	78.8	174.3	45.8	5.5	101.2	172.5	59.2
February ..	116.8	242.8	70.7	8.3	145.9	261.2	100.5
March	123.5	248.0	70.3	7.5	141.8	247.1	96.1
April	117.0	222.6	61.3	8.1	121.4	211.2	99.3
May	130.9	251.9	69.1	8.8	148.4	243.1	122.3
June	114.4	226.0	59.0	8.8	125.1	211.6	109.9
1957-58 p—							
July	127.3	247.6	65.0	10.1	151.1	252.2	155.2
August	131.2	225.9	63.9	7.9	165.2	242.7	153.5
September ..	127.9	203.9	63.0	8.5	161.6	240.8	160.0
October	144.8	233.4	63.8	11.6	182.3	284.2	176.1
November ..	145.9	227.0	61.8	9.9	159.6	275.9	156.0
December ..	107.6	180.5	45.2	10.3	132.4	226.1	115.3
January	79.5	142.2	41.5	6.1	103.2	196.4	62.3

(a) Total made including that knitted or made of knitted or woven fabric. (b) Includes Boys' prior to July, 1950.
(c) Includes Maids' and Girls' stockings and all anklets subsequent to June, 1956. (d) Includes Infants' and Babies'. (e) Included with Children's. (f) Excludes knitted. (g) Included with Men's and Women's. (h) Infants' (sizes 0 to 3) only.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Whole Milk for All Purposes.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight).(a)					Beer.
				Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Full Cream Milk Products.	Beef (including Veal)	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total Pigeats (as Pork).	Total. (b)	
	'000 short tons.	'000 tons.	Million gals.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.(c)	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37	102.4	27.0	89.9	13,908	1,636	n.a.	45.9	16.0	10.0	7.7	79.6	6,261
1937-38	104.2	28.9	96.4	15,242	2,018	n.a.	49.7	17.2	9.9	7.2	84.0	7,084
1938-39	114.4	28.2	99.2	16,232	2,415	2,781	46.6	17.1	9.6	7.2	80.5	7,523
1950-51	141.3	37.6	99.8	13,303	3,692	7,069	54.3	13.5	9.4	7.1	84.3	14,397
1951-52	143.4	41.1	87.3	10,931	3,382	6,360	48.5	14.6	8.9	7.1	79.1	15,398
1952-53	143.9	36.7	101.3	13,632	3,883	6,951	56.2	20.8	12.2	6.9	96.1	16,446
1953-54	134.1	37.4	99.1	13,010	4,087	6,314	58.7	19.8	10.6	7.0	96.1	17,380
1954-55	129.4	40.1	110.5	15,667	3,765	5,364	60.0	20.0	12.3	8.3	100.6	18,473
1955-56	130.9	p41.0	117.1	17,149	3,223	6,217	62.6	19.5	12.1	7.8	102.0	18,958
1956-57p	138.1	39.9	113.5	15,807	3,734	6,812	67.0	18.1	11.6	7.4	104.1	18,793
Monthly Total—												
1955-56—												
Jan. ..	122.9	42.2	151.2	23,919	3,697	8,043	50.2	22.1	10.3	6.7	89.3	20,010
Feb. ..	111.3	40.2	128.0	20,036	2,521	5,994	52.4	20.6	9.2	7.1	89.3	20,617
Mar. ..	131.2	41.4	109.4	15,887	2,321	5,382	53.6	18.7	9.3	7.7	89.3	20,445
Apr. ..	134.5	p37.6	90.0	12,329	1,860	4,070	53.0	17.5	8.2	7.4	86.1	16,562
May ..	151.2	p43.3	77.6	9,845	1,666	3,717	65.0	16.9	8.2	7.9	98.0	15,234
June ..	138.6	p36.2	68.9	8,069	1,715	3,306	72.3	16.6	8.2	7.2	104.3	13,918
1956-57p—												
July ..	137.9	38.4	77.1	9,229	2,352	3,973	69.8	16.1	8.1	6.9	100.9	15,417
Aug ..	145.8	39.1	102.6	13,758	3,561	5,932	70.0	16.3	9.4	6.9	102.6	17,004
Sept. ..	147.9	41.3	123.7	17,277	4,973	8,018	65.7	16.1	11.8	6.3	99.9	17,495
Oct. ..	144.1	44.4	162.6	24,187	6,514	10,720	64.7	17.9	14.8	7.8	105.2	22,129
Nov. ..	146.3	42.8	163.0	24,412	6,372	10,653	66.6	18.9	15.6	8.8	109.9	22,160
Dec. ..	141.7	40.5	159.4	24,071	5,747	9,855	58.1	17.9	16.2	10.3	102.5	23,555
Jan. ..	140.0	35.7	147.0	22,152	4,530	8,898	54.5	19.4	11.8	6.1	91.8	21,089
Feb. ..	135.0	37.5	113.8	16,324	3,053	6,794	58.5	19.4	9.9	6.6	94.4	18,215
Mar. ..	138.9	42.5	103.9	14,151	2,698	6,123	68.1	19.4	10.2	7.1	104.8	18,313
Apr. ..	116.1	36.3	82.4	10,516	1,886	4,240	63.2	18.0	9.3	7.3	97.8	17,595
May ..	136.5	41.6	68.3	7,718	1,589	3,461	83.5	20.1	11.6	7.7	122.9	17,693
June ..	127.5	39.1	58.9	5,892	1,529	3,075	81.4	18.4	10.0	7.2	117.0	14,849
1957-58p—												
July ..	138.5	40.8	68.9	7,569	2,022	3,724	81.5	17.4	8.9	7.6	115.4	16,644
August	139.5	41.7	89.9	11,257	2,924	5,753	73.2	16.5	8.8	7.5	106.0	15,635
Sept. ..	123.5	43.9	121.0	16,851	4,264	8,606	63.6	19.1	11.6	7.3	101.6	19,637
Oct. ..	130.2	45.5	145.8	21,181	5,177	10,533	63.6	24.2	18.9	8.4	115.1	22,230
Nov. ..	130.6	45.4	153.1	22,954	4,776	10,419	51.3	24.4	19.9	8.9	104.5	23,145
Dec. ..	113.2	r41.2	139.3	20,698	3,849	9,354	49.0	25.2	16.8	10.9	101.9	25,095
Jan. ..	105.4	39.1	120.2	17,386	2,899	7,728	52.9	25.8	12.0	7.4	98.1	21,172

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Whole milk equivalent.

(b) In terms of fresh meat.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS.

Period.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Chemicals and Allied Products.				Motor Bodies.			Pneumatic Tyres— Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, etc.
		Sulphuric Acid (100 %).	Super- phosphate.	Paints.		Sedans and Coupes.	Tourers and Roadsters.	Utilities.	
				Ready- Mixed Paint and Enamels.	Lacquers, Nitro- Cellulose.				
	'000 lb.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	No.	No.	No.	'000.
Monthly Average—									
1936-37	1,805	36.4	90.9	n.a.	n.a.	3,660	478	610	n.a.
1937-38	1,904	41.3	102.8	209	60	4,032	804	518	n.a.
1938-39	1,939	40.8	100.0	224	48	3,426	816	715	n.a.
1950-51	2,652	53.3	129.0	623	96	3,036	387	1,853	187
1951-52	2,795	54.2	133.1	633	99	3,486	390	1,865	213
1952-53	3,029	52.3	131.7	534	84	4,133		1,745	141
1953-54	3,487	61.0	147.6	657	109	5,514		2,088	241
1954-55	3,706	69.6	163.4	812	123	6,002		2,245	293
1955-56	3,842	74.7	177.2	890	125	6,912		2,030	303
1956-57 p.. .. .	4,079	73.1	164.6	902	121	6,463		1,808	284
Monthly Total—									
1955-56 p—									
January	3,474	76.1	189.2	695	93	4,355		1,288	204
February	3,851	80.6	211.5	829	129	6,826		2,202	296
March	3,978	78.1	187.8	922	131	7,047		2,020	282
April	3,810	76.7	176.4	873	123	5,943		1,780	280
May	3,844	72.4	178.0	1,032	137	7,152		2,023	339
June	3,649	66.7	159.6	800	117	5,448		1,694	301
1956-57 p—									
July	3,848	58.3	114.4	811	117	5,585		1,881	325
August	3,988	65.7	150.9	879	122	6,860		1,685	325
September	3,843	66.9	119.3	885	113	5,756		1,632	284
October	4,408	69.1	161.6	1,044	127	6,854		2,073	304
November	4,305	63.3	128.8	1,051	123	7,214		2,061	311
December	3,811	60.5	127.1	899	97	5,344		871	211
January	4,071	69.8	167.8	747	101	5,053		967	205
February	4,147	82.1	200.8	944	127	6,693		2,271	292
March	4,074	88.8	199.5	973	146	7,971		2,124	274
April	3,953	85.8	191.9	900	127	6,248		1,855	281
May	4,612	87.5	223.8	971	143	7,486		2,312	335
June	3,892	78.9	189.1	721	112	6,492		1,959	258
1957-58 p—									
July	3,914	80.7	178.2	831	128	8,429		2,280	335
August	3,770	88.0	r195.9	931	131	8,235		2,170	277
September	4,039	72.7	155.0	1,059	134	8,010		2,371	330
October	4,523	71.6	167.2	1,047	141	8,788		2,654	333
November	4,472	81.5	172.4	r1,093	142	8,727		r2,583	293
December	4,567	77.1	163.0	r912	110	6,107		1,935	234
January	4,283	78.5	182.7	783	115	6,344		1,891	232

(o) Details for 1954-55 and earlier periods refer to Australian factory production ; 1955-56 and later figures to quantity on which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Unless otherwise stated, the indexes shown below include mining, manufacturing, electricity and manufactured gas, but exclude construction. When the indexes are adjusted for differences in the number of working days per month or for seasonal variations they are footnoted accordingly.

Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base : 1953 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium. (a)	Canada. (b)	Denmark. (b)	France. (b)	Italy.	Japan.	Nether- lands.	Norway. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United King- dom. (c)	U.S.A. (b) (d)
1951 ..	106	91	100	98	r91	74	91	94	101	97	90
1952 ..	101	94	96	99	r93	82	91	95	99	94	93
1953 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1954 ..	106	98	109	110	109	108	110	109	104	107	93
1955 ..	116	107	112	120	119	117	118	117	111	113	104
1956 ..	122	114	111	133	128	142	124	122	114	112	107
1957 ..	123	114	115	145	138	161	126	126	118	114	107
1956—											
January ..	122	104	110	133	120	118	117	126	114	115	107
February ..	113	107	113	129	115	124	111	143	113	117	107
March ..	124	112	109	132	130	130	128	118	119	116	107
April ..	127	112	102	140	123	137	119	120	119	113	107
May ..	129	114	113	146	133	137	129	112	120	112	105
June ..	125	120	114	139	131	139	130	128	118	117	105
July ..	108	115	75	132	134	142	120	80	61	105	96
August ..	117	116	115	92	107	142	121	122	110	93	106
September ..	124	120	121	134	134	145	123	132	121	116	109
October ..	127	121	124	141	142	146	136	133	125	118	113
November ..	129	120	125	147	135	150	134	135	125	120	110
December ..	123	113	116	145	128	155	117	121	123	110	107
1957—											
January ..	123	110	118	140	135	141	127	127	119	114	108
February ..	128	113	122	144	129	151	119	144	123	118	110
March ..	129	114	122	145	r140	158	127	134	123	119	110
April ..	131	115	119	146	r139	161	125	117	126	111	107
May ..	r132	117	119	151	r143	166	136	126	126	120	107
June ..	122	120	117	150	136	166	125	131	125	117	108
July ..	92	114	77	139	147	169	128	88	62	106	101
August ..	117	115	116	98	116	159	122	125	116	98	108
September ..	r125	r118	119	148	143	163	124	136	125	118	r109
October ..	126	117	118	150	r146	165	133	134	125	119	108
November ..	125	115	118	159	140	r163	r128	135	124	122	105
December ..	123	105	111	163	138	r165	r117	119	124	112	r100
1958—											
January ..			118	155		151		122			99

(a) Adjusted for seasonal variations and for number of working days.
(c) Partially adjusted for number of working days. Includes construction.

(b) Adjusted for number of working days.
(d) Excludes electricity and manufactured gas.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Excluding Defence Service vehicles. Prior to January, 1956, Department of the Navy vehicles were included.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period.		
	Motor Cars.(a)	Commercial Vehicles, etc.(a)	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars. (a)	Commercial Vehicles, etc.(a)	Motor Cycles.
	000.	'000.	'000.	Monthly Averages.		
1947-48(b) ..	592	412	100	3,562	(c)2,397	1,192
1948-49(b) ..	655	450	117	5,539	(c)3,056	1,852
1949-50(b) ..	768	499	134	9,584	(c)4,829	2,232
1950-51(b) ..	882	548	145	10,671	6,461	2,263
1951-52(b) ..	1,031	581	154	10,480	6,085	1,846
1952-53(b) ..	1,108	579	148	7,773	4,337	941
1953-54 ..	1,200	607	140	10,466	4,783	905
1954-55 ..	1,347	650	133	13,900	5,598	941
1955-56 ..	1,472	679	126	13,644	5,766	878
1956-57 ..	1,569	703	120	12,481	4,916	805
				Monthly Totals.		
1955-56—				(d)	(d)	(d)
February ..	1,440	670	128	12,343	5,325	881
March ..	1,452	674	128	14,202	5,631	978
April ..	1,456	674	127	10,999	5,037	749
May ..	1,464	677	126	12,213	6,182	887
June ..	1,472	679	126	11,738	5,280	633
1956-57—						
July ..	1,478	681	125	11,778	5,436	644
August ..	1,489	685	125	13,653	5,225	800
September ..	1,494	683	124	11,506	4,547	662
October ..	1,509	689	124	13,429	5,499	875
November ..	1,520	693	124	14,058	5,632	867
December ..	1,527	694	124	12,030	4,389	782
January ..	1,536	695	123	10,898	3,858	842
February ..	1,543	697	123	12,099	3,319	903
March ..	1,551	699	122	12,090	5,290	906
April ..	1,557	700	122	11,344	4,737	761
May ..	1,564	702	121	14,550	5,751	872
June ..	1,569	703	120	12,337	5,314	744
1957-58—						
July ..	1,578	710	119	12,994	5,280	690
August ..	1,583	712	119	11,852	5,369	776
September ..	1,594	714	118	13,423	5,371	816
October ..	1,602	717	118	15,321	6,115	884
November ..	1,605	718	118	r14,617	r5,752	r882
December ..	1,625	726	118	r14,813	r5,379	r952
January p. .				11,300	4,900	1,150
February p ..				12,250	5,750	1,000

(a) Registration in Victoria is according to purpose of use and not type of vehicle ; consequently motor car registrations are overstated by the inclusion of commercial vehicles, registered for private use. Prior to 12th November, 1951, primary producers' private cars registered in Victoria were included in commercial vehicle registrations. (b) Excludes Northern Territory. (c) Includes taxis and hire cars in Victoria. (d) Includes some new registrations effected in preceding months but not passed into central registration records until subsequent months.

NOTE.—Particulars of New Motor Vehicles registered, as shown above, are compiled by the Registration Authorities in each State, and, because of the factors referred to in note (a) and for other reasons, differ from those published in the Monthly Bulletin of Registrations of New Motor Vehicles and the Monthly Press Statement.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS : OPERATIONS AND REVENUE.

Period.	Revenue Train-Miles.	Goods and Livestock.(a)		Passenger Journneys.	Revenue.	
		Tons Carried.	Net Ton- miles.(b)		Gross.	Net.
	'000.	'000.	Million.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—						
1947-48	7,310	3,345	494.5	42,564	6,450	511
1948-49	7,690	3,428	517.7	42,225	7,165	85
1949-50	7,785	3,362	516.9	42,054	7,683	-205
1950-51	7,390	3,392	523.1	39,674	8,804	-594
1951-52	7,780	3,672	562.9	41,707	11,626	-721
1952-53	7,394	3,644	547.8	41,468	12,903	-560
1953-54	7,789	3,880	579.4	42,557	14,155	140
1954-55	7,911	3,951	608.0	43,071	14,498	124
1955-56	8,020	3,875	606.1	42,895	14,765	-659
1956-57	r7,924	r3,956	r614.1	41,626	r15,737	r-376
Monthly Total—(c)						
1955-56—						
November	7,984	4,215	636.5	40,916	15,512	-49
December	8,002	3,734	574.4	39,862	14,254	-1,203
January	7,765	3,186	522.6	42,273	13,552	-668
February	7,284	3,468	560.8	42,929	13,521	-941
March	8,047	3,622	603.4	42,160	14,790	-478
April	7,732	3,685	576.2	44,257	14,151	-759
May	8,453	4,067	649.4	43,329	15,547	-2,527
June	8,080	3,810	618.3	42,232	15,541	-2,361
1956-57—						
July	8,147	4,184	638.1	44,061	15,227	-333
August	8,531	4,369	658.8	39,928	16,806	577
September	8,061	4,061	627.2	41,695	16,094	1,283
October	8,537	4,476	670.5	44,995	17,497	967
November	8,131	4,219	641.2	40,735	16,712	-248
December	7,732	3,419	560.6	40,711	14,552	-1,228
January	7,902	3,534	586.5	39,933	15,027	-62
February	7,264	3,750	591.6	41,026	14,585	-459
March	7,886	3,789	624.0	41,497	15,347	-89
April	7,503	3,676	594.7	42,343	15,220	-31
May	8,153	4,057	667.2	41,604	16,569	-385
June	7,570	3,588	579.3	40,988	14,454	-2,027
1957-58—						
July	8,020	4,095	613.8	43,558	15,703	-134
August	7,996	4,091	600.5	39,681	15,763	-88
September	7,613	3,959	578.8	43,923	15,810	285
October	8,005	4,244	620.0	40,400	16,484	580
November	7,613	3,890	585.9	39,718	15,176	-1,008

(a) Excludes South Brisbane-Border section of Uniform Gauge Railway. (b) From 1948-49 figures are partly estimated.
(c) Prepared from monthly railway returns and not strictly comparable with annual figures above, which include certain details not available on a monthly basis.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS WEIGHT.

(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton measurement.)(a)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1947-48.. ..	378	415	270	46	34	200	7	34	592
1948-49.. ..	452	487	257	41	32	152	5	32	519
1949-50.. ..	422	641	233	37	30	198	5	32	535
1950-51.. ..	450	757	232	37	36	222	5	28	560
1951-52.. ..	374	810	280	37	45	238	11	29	641
1952-53.. ..	504	644	285	34	53	247	52	33	704
1953-54.. ..	479	711	307	39	36	287	54	35	758
1954-55.. ..	507	916	302	74	43	318	73	41	851
1955-56.. ..	555	1,036	293	99	47	350	137	43	969
1956-57.. ..	728	1,050	309	97	60	378	116	32	992
Monthly Total—									
1955-56—									
January(c) ..	464	942	192	89	29	371	174	35	890
February(c) ..	369	898	177	90	21	295	105	19	708
March ..	722	1,133	286	69	43	374	113	55	940
April ..	683	1,007	301	103	14	356	109	50	933
May ..	821	1,300	366	95	27	392	133	57	1,071
June ..	663	1,082	319	91	37	387	148	55	1,037
1956-57—									
July ..	686	968	314	62	60	342	99	34	911
August ..	715	1,081	376	91	50	369	120	42	1,049
September ..	786	965	326	72	55	410	137	40	1,040
October ..	769	1,127	313	113	68	408	106	29	1,038
November ..	794	1,110	331	107	86	431	116	37	1,110
December ..	712	963	266	132	79	375	107	30	989
January ..	796	1,119	257	82	65	418	124	30	976
February ..	751	953	246	135	60	357	122	25	945
March ..	861	1,005	282	92	56	428	129	25	1,012
April ..	597	1,049	260	84	47	359	120	28	899
May ..	666	1,302	417	143	37	353	109	32	1,091
June ..	601	954	319	51	52	283	98	36	839
1957-58 p—									
July ..	665	1,256	317	135	61	347	96	r41	r997
August ..	732	1,126	337	75	78	r355	117	35	r997
September ..	732	r1,029	348	116	79	r356	r115	41	r1,055
October ..	711	1,020	385	137	84	376	148	40	1,170
November ..	r657	985	327	123	59	r376	r113	37	r1,035
December ..	692	1,007	339	88	52	366	184	49	1,078
January ..	555	1,247	311	109	42	358	143	48	1,011

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Measurement on page 46.
dispute.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Affected by industrial

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS OF 40 CUBIC FEET MEASUREMENT.
(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton weight.)(a)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1947-48.. ..	104	160	29	18	12	16	6	24	105
1948-49.. ..	114	214	29	20	10	15	6	18	98
1949-50.. ..	116	298	25	21	11	17	7	20	101
1950-51.. ..	108	333	27	20	10	20	6	27	110
1951-52.. ..	103	391	32	25	9	17	6	21	110
1952-53.. ..	121	161	31	22	8	17	9	19	106
1953-54.. ..	113	234	36	35	10	19	8	20	128
1954-55.. ..	118	284	34	35	10	16	8	20	123
1955-56.. ..	129	285	24	31	9	12	8	27	111
1956-57.. ..	115	229	20	32	7	8	7	33	108
Monthly Total—									
1955-56—									
January(c) ..	65	213	15	20	4	5	3	17	64
February(c) ..	43	269	12	9	4	4	7	30	66
March ..	157	289	26	27	5	17	11	16	102
April ..	185	268	24	27	9	8	6	26	100
May ..	197	256	28	28	9	6	13	36	120
June ..	162	235	19	33	8	9	8	22	99
1956-57—									
July ..	79	276	14	20	9	8	11	25	87
August ..	125	329	28	28	8	6	6	28	104
September ..	101	214	19	34	8	10	5	42	118
October ..	107	220	26	38	8	7	13	36	129
November ..	110	243	22	39	8	8	7	28	112
December ..	99	204	17	24	5	8	4	24	82
January ..	82	249	13	29	5	3	9	31	91
February ..	83	156	17	29	10	8	6	37	107
March ..	145	221	27	40	7	8	9	33	124
April ..	173	238	19	36	8	7	5	39	114
May ..	172	219	20	39	6	12	7	37	121
June ..	103	183	17	32	5	10	6	32	102
1957-58 p—									
July ..	124	264	18	31	4	8	6	37	104
August ..	111	238	21	23	7	8	4	26	r90
September ..	117	196	25	37	5	10	9	31	117
October ..	97	271	21	32	5	8	7	32	105
November ..	134	r234	15	41	8	15	r8	26	r113
December ..	111	237	56	29	5	4	3	13	110
January ..	118	261	17	26	4	19	6	10	82

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Weight on page 45.
dispute.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Affected by industrial

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G's Department at end of period.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.	Television Viewers' Licences in force at end of period.(b)	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
				Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
Monthly Average.					
1947-48	2,616	1,833	..	688	963
1948-49	2,776	1,919	..	734	1,028
1949-50	3,196	2,030	..	793	1,110
1950-51	3,732	(c)2,110	..	864	1,209
1951-52	4,948	1,961	..	927	1,301
1952-53	5,367	1,986	..	985	1,384
1953-54	5,650	2,042	..	1,050	1,476
1954-55	6,069	2,035	..	1,127	1,587
1955-56	6,612	2,089	..	1,207	1,704
1956-57	7,519	2,107	74	1,279	1,814
Monthly Total.					
1955-56—					
February	6,285	2,069	..	1,185	1,671
March	6,802	2,068	..	1,190	1,679
April	6,117	2,075	..	1,195	1,685
May	7,352	2,081	..	1,201	1,695
June	7,422	2,089	..	1,207	1,704
1956-57—					
July	6,743	2,095	..	1,213	1,714
August	6,716	2,101	..	1,220	1,724
September	6,455	2,099	..	1,226	1,734
October	8,110	2,108	..	1,233	1,743
November	7,225	2,101	..	1,239	1,753
December	7,611	2,092	..	1,245	1,762
January	7,073	2,101	22	1,250	1,771
February	7,312	2,102	28	1,255	1,777
March	8,020	2,111	34	1,260	1,786
April	7,539	2,108	42	1,266	1,795
May	8,457	2,111	57	1,272	1,804
June	8,962	2,107	74	1,279	1,814
1957-58—					
July	7,423	2,113	90	1,284	1,823
August	7,532	2,117	106	1,290	1,833
September	7,503	2,123	120	1,296	1,843
October	8,563	2,112	133	1,303	1,853
November	7,510	2,140	151	1,311	1,863
December	8,623	2,142	167	1,319	1,874
January	8,469	2,141	178	1,325	1,883
February	7,664	2,145	200	1,331	1,892

(a) Actual collections. (b) Licences, taken out in advance, did not come into force until 1st January, 1957. (c) During the period July, 1942, to December, 1951, supplementary licences for receivers in excess of one are included.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS.

(Including Note Issue Department.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

(£A million.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves).	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and other Securities (including Treasury Bills).
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1950-51.. ..	32.7	219.1	251.8	503.2	34.7	238.2	596.3	366.6
1951-52.. ..	38.1	255.5	293.6	468.8	31.1	270.9	470.6	503.1
1952-53.. ..	36.9	281.3	318.2	212.9	45.4	287.4	363.6	434.8
1953-54.. ..	38.5	299.7	338.2	(a) 306.8	41.7	283.4	512.6	408.0
1954-55.. ..	40.9	316.1	357.0	306.3	36.8	243.5	415.9	459.8
1955-56.. ..	43.0	331.1	374.1	272.8	35.6	208.7	298.9	515.7
1956-57.. ..	44.9	338.3	383.2	289.4	31.4	205.9	349.7	508.8
1955-56—								
February ..	42.8	330.6	373.4	281.9	33.5	211.4	293.2	511.0
March ..	41.5	335.9	377.4	300.4	36.0	211.0	274.0	540.6
April ..	45.9	336.2	382.1	292.9	27.8	200.8	258.4	530.5
May ..	45.1	329.7	374.8	272.4	34.4	204.3	263.4	509.6
June ..	43.9	330.4	374.3	260.4	37.2	204.1	270.2	503.9
1956-57—								
July ..	43.1	330.7	373.8	255.4	33.5	202.2	282.4	497.2
August ..	42.8	333.8	376.6	255.4	38.4	201.7	292.0	513.8
September ..	42.7	337.1	379.8	255.4	40.7	203.9	286.7	538.2
October ..	43.7	337.4	381.1	258.4	31.8	206.2	285.9	546.5
November ..	43.5	340.6	384.1	270.3	34.2	207.6	302.0	559.2
December(b) ..	50.9	348.9	399.8	270.3	27.6	205.4	317.9	555.5
January ..	51.0	341.4	392.4	272.1	34.9	203.3	339.5	525.8
February ..	43.5	336.1	379.6	297.6	35.5	206.2	364.7	498.4
March ..	43.3	337.5	380.8	320.7	30.1	204.8	386.8	488.2
April ..	44.1	344.6	388.7	340.3	19.8	208.3	428.0	470.6
May ..	46.3	337.8	384.1	340.3	20.6	212.3	450.7	461.5
June ..	43.9	337.7	381.6	340.3	28.0	208.9	459.1	459.8
1957-58—								
July ..	43.3	338.7	382.0	340.3	27.9	208.9	471.1	450.0
August ..	43.0	342.4	385.4	340.3	30.4	209.4	473.1	468.5
September ..	42.9	343.8	386.7	340.3	29.4	206.8	472.5	480.9
October ..	44.0	343.7	387.7	340.3	32.8	211.4	471.1	496.0
November ..	44.7	345.2	389.9	340.3	23.6	216.4	466.4	499.7
December (b) ..	53.3	359.8	413.1	340.3	24.3	213.8	470.9	508.9
January ..	50.4	346.9	397.3	340.3	28.5	216.7	470.6	496.4
February ..	45.0	340.8	385.8	340.3	24.0	223.2	464.4	479.0

(a) From 3rd December, 1953, includes Special Account of Commonwealth Trading Bank. Previously the Special Deposit Account of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank was included in "Other Liabilities". (b) Return for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

**COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a),
and
COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA
(RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS.)
(£ million.)**

Period.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)								Commonwealth Bank—Advances.			
	Deposits.			Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Commonwealth and State Government Securities.		Special Account with Common- wealth Bank. (b)	Ad- vances.	Rural Credits Depart- ment.	Mortgage Bank Depart- ment.	Industrial Finance Department.	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.		Treasury Bills.	Other.					Hire Purchase.	Other.
Average of Weekly Figures—												
1950-51 ..	19.4	89.2	108.6	7.2	24.0	26.9	..	62.5	13.7	3.8	14.7	7.6
1951-52 ..	20.1	90.6	110.7	6.6	26.4	13.3	..	76.4	19.7	4.1	15.5	8.7
1952-53 ..	22.8	96.7	119.5	8.8	b 17.2	c 25.8	21.7	c 59.5	44.9	4.3	14.8	8.1
1953-54 ..	35.3	120.9	156.2	11.0	23.4	29.9	34.8	69.2	43.2	4.5	16.6	4.7
1954-55 ..	43.6	130.9	174.5	10.5	12.3	38.2	36.1	89.1	62.3	4.8	17.0	6.7
1955-56 ..	46.3	135.6	181.9	10.2	6.3	38.6	33.2	103.9	73.8	5.1	16.6	9.0
1956-57 ..	44.4	140.1	184.5	10.0	4.1	35.7	34.6	106.5	56.6	5.1	16.5	9.4
1955-56—												
February ..	46.7	132.9	179.6	9.8	4.2	40.1	33.6	104.8	98.8	5.0	16.5	9.1
March ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	10.1	6.0	36.8	35.7	102.7	113.5	5.1	16.0	9.1
April ..	40.9	141.9	182.8	10.7	7.6	35.7	34.8	101.3	109.5	5.1	15.8	9.2
May ..	42.0	138.2	180.2	9.8	8.2	35.7	32.9	101.0	98.1	5.1	15.8	9.3
June ..	42.7	136.4	179.1	10.2	5.0	35.7	31.9	101.9	86.6	5.0	15.7	9.4
1956-57—												
July ..	42.7	132.7	175.4	8.9	2.0	35.7	31.2	105.3	76.9	5.1	15.7	9.2
August ..	43.3	135.8	179.1	9.3	4.0	36.3	31.2	106.0	64.8	5.1	15.8	9.3
September ..	43.1	135.8	178.9	9.6	4.0	37.2	31.2	106.2	56.6	5.1	16.3	9.3
October ..	43.1	138.8	181.9	9.9	2.8	36.5	31.7	108.2	51.4	5.1	16.7	9.4
November ..	43.7	142.9	186.6	10.3	4.3	35.9	33.7	107.9	44.8	5.1	17.2	9.5
December(d)	45.0	144.1	189.1	8.9	4.8	35.9	33.7	107.4	38.2	5.1	17.3	9.6
January ..	44.4	137.8	182.2	10.9	3.7	32.1	33.7	110.8	44.1	5.1	17.1	9.2
February ..	45.0	139.7	184.7	9.8	5.4	33.5	34.9	108.4	64.1	5.1	16.8	9.2
March ..	44.6	142.7	187.3	10.5	4.0	36.1	37.3	105.2	72.9	5.2	16.5	9.4
April ..	45.2	144.7	189.9	10.7	3.5	36.9	39.2	103.7	66.8	5.2	16.5	9.4
May ..	45.8	142.7	188.5	9.7	3.9	36.2	39.2	105.2	54.8	5.3	16.1	9.5
June ..	47.7	146.2	193.9	11.1	7.0	36.6	39.2	102.5	42.5	5.2	15.9	9.6
1957-58—												
July ..	49.5	143.3	192.8	10.7	6.0	39.0	39.2	107.3	41.2	5.3	15.8	9.6
August ..	50.6	144.1	194.7	10.6	5.6	43.0	39.2	105.5	30.5	5.4	15.8	9.7
September ..	50.4	145.4	195.8	11.4	3.7	47.0	39.2	104.6	22.2	5.4	15.9	9.9
October ..	50.8	152.5	203.3	11.3	5.2	49.3	39.2	105.2	20.7	5.5	16.1	9.8
November ..	53.8	155.9	209.7	11.4	6.7	51.7	39.2	105.4	20.4	5.5	16.1	9.7
December(d)	55.2	159.8	215.0	9.9	3.5	54.0	43.6	104.6	18.3	5.5	16.2	9.8
January ..	55.1	148.8	203.9	11.0	2.5	46.4	43.6	107.1	29.9	5.5	16.2	9.4
February ..	55.6	148.6	204.2	10.9	2.8	44.8	43.6	107.5	45.5	5.6	16.0	9.2

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (b) At the beginning of July, 1952, the General Banking Division opened, in the books of the Central Bank, a special deposit account with a balance approximating the amount that would be required if it were subject to Special Account provisions of the Banking Act 1945. This represents a change in the form of liquid assets which were previously held, predominantly, in Treasury Bills. (c) Between March and July, 1952, certain loans to building societies and *crédit foncier* loans for housing were transferred from the General Banking Division to the Commonwealth Savings Bank in exchange for Government Securities. The reduction in these loans (held by the General Banking Division) over this period was approximately £24,000,000. (d) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for the fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(a)
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Commonwealth and State Government Securities.		Special Account with Com- monwealth Bank.	Advances.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.		Treasury Bills.	Other.		
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1936-37.. ..	184.7	112.9	297.6	34.2	24.5	(b) 15.0	..	262.5
1937-38.. ..	194.8	120.0	314.8	37.1	20.7	(b) 21.4	..	274.4
1938-39.. ..	198.8	118.9	317.7	33.6	21.5	(b) 20.5	..	288.1
1950-51.. ..	247.7	(c)896.5	1,144.2	59.3	36.9	89.2	500.3	(c) 479.3
1951-52.. ..	238.2	963.5	1,201.7	60.6	32.4	67.0	466.0	621.4
1952-53.. ..	218.7	943.7	1,162.4	74.7	123.1	84.0	211.7	638.1
1953-54.. ..	239.8	1,035.7	1,275.5	71.2	99.4	127.6	285.2	658.5
1954-55(d) ..	263.0	1,047.7	1,310.7	66.9	51.6	120.2	269.1	776.8
1955-56.. ..	263.1	1,032.3	1,295.4	66.9	50.0	113.1	238.8	804.4
1956-57.. ..	299.5	1,028.5	1,328.0	63.7	51.2	151.3	254.1	762.6
1955-56—								
February ..	259.7	1,072.2	1,331.9	66.9	111.6	116.4	247.4	773.7
March ..	259.4	1,075.0	1,334.4	65.7	91.6	118.3	263.9	776.2
April ..	262.8	1,058.7	1,321.5	60.5	62.1	118.3	257.3	786.8
May ..	265.9	1,011.9	1,277.8	66.8	41.5	118.3	238.7	798.4
June ..	269.2	991.2	1,260.4	65.7	28.9	120.2	227.7	793.9
1956-57—								
July ..	275.5	967.9	1,243.4	64.9	29.6	114.8	223.4	797.7
August ..	278.6	955.8	1,234.4	68.5	28.9	115.6	223.4	787.0
September ..	284.1	964.4	1,248.5	71.4	37.4	119.2	223.4	778.5
October ..	287.6	993.9	1,281.5	64.3	51.9	123.9	225.9	780.2
November ..	293.4	1,018.0	1,311.4	64.6	54.1	135.6	235.9	771.2
December (e) ..	299.2	1,041.4	1,340.6	65.9	62.5	150.3	235.9	762.2
January ..	305.6	1,056.9	1,362.5	73.1	83.3	166.7	237.7	744.9
February ..	310.1	1,080.8	1,390.9	66.2	88.6	182.1	261.8	732.5
March ..	312.9	1,103.4	1,416.3	60.2	92.4	188.4	282.7	725.5
April ..	311.9	1,083.1	1,395.0	51.7	47.7	184.0	300.4	743.5
May ..	316.3	1,052.4	1,368.7	55.8	27.7	173.5	300.4	757.3
June ..	321.2	1,040.9	1,362.1	56.1	15.9	167.6	300.4	766.2
1957-58—								
July ..	328.9	1,020.7	1,349.6	59.1	18.8	158.9	300.4	770.5
August ..	330.6	1,001.3	1,331.9	60.3	17.0	158.3	300.4	762.0
September ..	334.2	1,008.0	1,342.2	57.9	21.1	159.8	300.4	756.1
October ..	344.3	1,041.2	1,385.5	62.7	34.8	163.2	300.4	765.5
November ..	344.2	1,062.4	1,406.6	56.9	37.8	174.6	300.4	772.0
December (e) ..	346.0	1,085.7	1,431.7	66.4	46.2	180.5	296.0	766.3
January ..	352.4	1,093.3	1,445.7	69.2	69.5	196.1	296.0	753.4
February ..	352.4	1,091.2	1,443.6	58.9	77.1	201.9	296.0	749.6

(a) Previously Nine Trading Banks. Now includes Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd., The Bank of Adelaide, Bank of New South Wales, The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and from March, 1955, The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.). Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Includes Municipal Securities. (c) Figures are not strictly comparable with earlier periods owing to changes in classification of some minor assets and liabilities. (d) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS(a)—continued.

RATIOS OF SELECTED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(Per Cent.)

Period.			Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
			Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Cash + Treasury Bills + Other Commonwealth and State Government Securities.	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank.	Advances.	
Average of Figures—	of	Weekly						
1936-37	11.5	19.7	(b) 24.8	..	88.2	37.9
1937-38	11.8	18.4	(b) 25.2	..	87.1	38.1
1938-39	10.6	17.4	(b) 23.8	..	90.7	37.4
1950-51	5.2	8.4	16.2	43.7	(c) 41.9	78.3
1951-52	5.0	7.7	13.3	38.8	51.7	80.2
1952-53	6.4	17.0	24.3	18.2	54.9	81.2
1953-54	5.6	13.4	23.4	22.4	51.6	81.2
1954-55(d)	5.1	9.0	18.2	20.5	59.3	79.9
1955-56	5.2	9.0	17.7	18.4	62.1	79.7
1956-57	4.8	8.6	20.0	19.1	57.4	77.5
1955-56—								
February	5.0	13.4	22.1	18.6	58.1	80.5
March	4.9	11.8	20.7	19.8	58.2	80.6
April	4.6	9.3	18.2	19.5	59.5	80.1
May	5.2	8.5	17.8	18.7	62.5	79.2
June..	5.2	7.5	17.0	18.1	63.0	78.6
1956-57—								
July	5.2	7.6	16.8	18.0	64.2	77.8
August	5.5	7.9	17.3	18.1	63.7	77.4
September	5.7	8.7	18.2	17.9	62.4	77.2
October	5.0	9.1	18.8	17.6	60.9	77.5
November	4.9	9.0	19.3	18.0	58.8	77.6
December(e)	4.9	9.6	20.8	17.6	56.9	77.7
January	5.4	11.5	23.7	17.4	54.7	77.6
February	4.8	11.1	24.2	18.8	52.7	77.7
March	4.3	10.8	24.1	20.0	51.2	77.9
April	3.7	7.1	20.3	21.5	53.3	77.6
May	4.1	6.1	18.8	21.9	55.3	76.9
June..	4.1	5.3	17.6	22.1	56.3	76.4
1957-58—								
July	4.4	5.8	17.6	22.3	57.1	75.6
August	4.5	5.8	17.7	22.5	57.2	75.2
September	4.3	5.9	17.8	22.4	56.3	75.1
October	4.5	7.0	18.8	21.7	55.2	75.2
November	4.0	6.7	19.1	21.4	54.9	75.5
December(e)	4.6	7.9	20.5	20.7	53.5	75.8
January	4.8	9.6	23.2	20.5	52.1	75.6
February	4.1	9.4	23.4	20.5	51.9	75.6

(a) See footnote (a) on previous page.
with earlier periods owing to changes in classification of some minor assets and liabilities.
vol. liq.) included from March, 1955.

(b) Includes Municipal securities.

(c) Figures are not strictly comparable

(d) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in
(e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH(a) AND PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(b)

(Major Trading Banks.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Commonwealth and State Government Securities.		Special Account with Com- monwealth Bank.	Advances.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.		Treasury Bills.	Other.		
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1950-51.. ..	267.1	985.7	1,252.8	66.5	60.9	116.1	500.3	541.8
1951-52.. ..	258.3	1,054.1	1,312.4	67.2	58.8	80.3	466.0	697.8
1952-53.. ..	241.5	1,040.4	1,281.9	83.5	140.3	109.9	233.5	697.6
1953-54.. ..	275.1	1,156.6	1,431.7	82.2	122.8	157.5	320.0	727.7
1954-55(c) ..	306.5	1,178.6	1,485.1	77.4	63.9	158.4	305.2	865.9
1955-56.. ..	309.4	1,167.9	1,477.3	77.1	56.3	151.7	272.0	908.3
1956-57.. ..	343.9	1,168.7	1,512.6	73.6	55.2	187.0	288.7	869.1
1955-56—								
February ..	306.5	1,205.1	1,511.6	76.7	115.8	156.5	281.1	878.5
March ..	304.9	1,210.9	1,515.8	75.8	97.6	155.1	299.6	878.8
April ..	303.6	1,200.7	1,504.3	71.2	69.7	154.0	292.1	888.0
May ..	307.9	1,150.1	1,458.0	76.6	49.7	154.0	271.6	899.4
June ..	311.9	1,127.6	1,439.5	75.9	33.9	155.9	259.6	895.8
1956-57—								
July ..	318.2	1,100.6	1,418.8	73.9	31.6	150.5	254.6	903.1
August ..	321.9	1,091.6	1,413.5	77.8	32.9	151.9	254.6	893.0
September ..	327.2	1,100.2	1,427.4	81.0	41.4	156.4	254.6	884.8
October ..	330.7	1,132.7	1,463.4	74.1	54.7	160.4	257.6	888.4
November ..	337.1	1,160.9	1,498.0	74.9	58.4	171.5	269.6	879.1
December(d) ..	344.2	1,185.5	1,529.7	74.8	67.3	186.2	269.6	869.7
January ..	350.0	1,194.7	1,544.7	84.0	87.0	198.8	271.3	855.8
February ..	355.1	1,220.5	1,575.6	76.0	94.0	215.7	296.8	840.9
March ..	357.6	1,246.1	1,603.7	70.7	96.4	224.5	319.9	830.7
April ..	357.1	1,227.8	1,584.9	62.4	51.2	221.0	339.6	847.1
May ..	362.0	1,195.2	1,557.2	65.5	31.6	209.6	339.6	862.5
June ..	368.8	1,187.2	1,556.0	67.2	22.9	204.2	339.6	868.8
1957-58—								
July ..	378.4	1,164.0	1,542.4	69.8	24.8	197.9	339.6	877.8
August ..	381.2	1,145.4	1,526.6	70.9	22.6	201.3	339.6	867.5
September ..	384.6	1,153.5	1,538.1	69.3	24.8	206.8	339.6	860.7
October ..	395.1	1,193.7	1,588.8	74.1	40.0	212.6	339.6	870.7
November ..	398.0	1,218.3	1,616.3	68.3	44.5	226.3	339.6	877.4
December (d) ..	401.2	1,245.5	1,646.7	76.3	49.7	234.5	339.6	870.9
January ..	407.5	1,242.1	1,649.6	80.2	72.0	242.5	339.6	860.5
February ..	408.0	1,239.8	1,647.8	69.8	79.9	246.7	339.6	857.1

(a) General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (b) See footnote (a), page 50.
(c) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (d) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

COMMONWEALTH(a) AND PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(b)

(Major Trading Banks.)

RATIOS OF SELECTED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(Per Cent.)

Period.			Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
			Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Cash + Treasury Bills + Other Commonwealth and State Government Securities.	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank.	Advances.	
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1950-51	..	..	5.3	10.2	19.4	39.9	43.3	78.7
1951-52	..	..	5.1	9.6	15.7	35.5	53.2	80.3
1952-53	..	..	6.4	17.4	26.0	18.2	54.4	81.2
1953-54	..	..	5.7	14.3	25.3	22.3	50.8	80.8
1954-55(c)	..	..	5.2	9.5	20.2	20.5	58.3	79.4
1955-56	..	..	5.2	9.0	19.3	18.4	61.5	79.1
1956-57	..	..	4.9	8.5	20.9	19.1	57.5	77.3
1955-56—								
February	..	..	5.1	12.7	23.1	18.6	58.1	79.7
March	..	..	5.0	11.4	21.7	19.8	58.0	79.9
April	..	..	4.7	9.4	19.6	19.4	59.0	79.8
May	..	..	5.3	8.7	19.2	18.6	61.7	78.9
June..	..	..	5.3	7.6	18.5	18.0	62.2	78.3
1956-57—								
July	..	..	5.2	7.4	18.0	17.9	63.7	77.6
August	..	..	5.5	7.8	18.6	18.0	63.2	77.2
September	..	..	5.7	8.6	19.5	17.8	62.0	77.1
October	..	..	5.1	8.8	19.8	17.6	60.7	77.4
November	..	..	5.0	8.9	20.3	18.0	58.7	77.5
December(d)	..	..	4.9	9.3	21.5	17.6	56.9	77.5
January	..	..	5.4	11.1	23.9	17.6	55.4	77.3
February	..	..	4.8	10.8	24.5	18.8	53.4	77.5
March	..	..	4.4	10.4	24.4	20.0	51.8	77.7
April	..	..	3.9	7.2	21.1	21.4	53.5	77.5
May	..	..	4.2	6.2	19.7	21.8	55.4	76.7
June..	..	..	4.3	5.8	18.9	21.8	55.8	76.3
1957-58—								
July	..	..	4.5	6.1	19.0	22.0	56.9	75.5
August	..	..	4.6	6.1	19.3	22.2	56.8	75.0
September	..	..	4.5	6.1	19.6	22.1	56.0	75.0
October	..	..	4.7	7.2	20.6	21.4	54.8	75.1
November	..	..	4.2	7.0	21.0	21.0	54.3	75.4
December(d)	..	..	4.6	7.6	21.9	20.6	52.9	75.6
January	..	..	4.8	9.2	23.9	20.6	52.2	75.3
February	..	..	4.2	9.1	24.1	20.6	52.0	75.2

(a) See footnote (a), page 52.
page 52.

(b) See footnote (a), page 50.

(c) See footnote (c), page 52.

(d) See footnote (d),

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.(a)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Commonwealth and State Government Securities.		Special Account with Com- monwealth Bank.	Advances.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.		Treasury Bills.	Other.		
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1950-51	279.6	1,017.6	1,297.2	71.4	64.0	127.5	503.6	598.4
1951-52	271.7	1,091.5	1,363.2	72.3	61.7	94.4	468.6	759.7
1952-53	256.8	1,076.3	1,333.1	(b) 88.2	(b) 144.2	(c) 123.0	234.6	(c) 762.3
1953-54	290.4	1,196.0	1,486.4	87.3	130.1	170.8	321.1	793.7
1954-55	322.6	1,220.0	1,542.6	82.0	69.5	171.7	306.3	938.1
1955-56	325.7	1,207.7	1,533.4	81.1	60.5	165.5	272.8	984.1
1956-57	360.9	1,209.9	1,570.8	77.5	59.1	202.1	289.4	946.8
1955-56—								
February	322.9	1,248.9	1,571.8	81.2	120.8	170.8	281.9	954.4
March	321.0	1,254.7	1,575.7	79.9	104.4	169.4	300.4	954.6
April	319.7	1,244.2	1,563.9	75.0	76.1	168.3	292.9	964.7
May	324.1	1,192.0	1,516.1	80.6	54.5	168.3	272.4	976.2
June	328.4	1,167.7	1,496.1	79.6	37.4	170.3	260.4	972.4
1956-57—								
July	334.8	1,139.1	1,473.9	77.2	34.3	164.8	255.4	979.7
August	338.4	1,129.4	1,467.8	81.0	34.7	166.2	255.4	968.9
September	343.4	1,138.3	1,481.7	84.9	43.4	170.6	255.4	959.9
October	346.7	1,170.9	1,517.6	77.8	57.0	174.7	258.4	964.9
November	353.6	1,200.8	1,554.4	79.0	61.3	186.4	270.3	956.1
December(d)	361.2	1,226.2	1,587.4	78.9	70.4	201.4	270.3	947.3
January	367.2	1,237.7	1,604.9	88.1	90.9	214.3	272.1	933.8
February	372.5	1,265.7	1,638.2	80.3	99.9	231.9	297.6	919.0
March	374.9	1,291.8	1,666.7	74.6	102.9	240.8	320.7	909.6
April	374.5	1,272.5	1,647.0	66.2	57.4	236.7	340.3	926.7
May	379.4	1,238.3	1,617.7	69.4	37.3	224.8	340.3	942.0
June	386.8	1,228.7	1,615.5	71.3	27.1	219.2	340.3	948.4
1957-58—								
July	397.6	1,205.2	1,602.8	74.3	29.6	212.6	340.3	956.5
August	400.3	1,185.6	1,585.9	74.5	26.9	215.6	340.3	945.1
September	403.9	1,192.7	1,596.6	73.0	29.2	220.8	340.3	939.2
October	414.3	1,234.5	1,648.8	78.0	44.8	226.4	340.3	950.7
November	417.7	1,260.6	1,678.3	72.6	49.8	240.7	340.3	957.7
December (d)	421.1	1,288.5	1,709.6	80.6	55.3	249.0	340.3	952.0
January	427.9	1,287.7	1,715.6	84.5	77.3	257.3	340.3	941.9
February	428.4	1,284.9	1,713.3	73.7	86.0	261.7	340.3	939.0

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Includes General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Commonwealth Trading Bank from 3rd December, 1953), the General Bank Department of the Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of the Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (b) See note (b), page 49. (c) See note (c), page 49. (d) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS.(a)

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches.)

(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1950-51.. ..	145.1	134.9	39.0	26.8	19.3	7.4	0.4	372.9
1951-52.. ..	156.6	142.3	41.5	30.8	21.8	8.9	0.5	402.4
1952-53.. ..	151.9	132.0	43.8	30.1	22.1	8.8	0.6	389.3
1953-54.. ..	171.7	154.9	51.0	32.8	25.4	9.9	0.8	446.5
1954-55(b)..	187.5	176.2	53.9	36.3	26.2	10.7	0.8	491.6
1955-56.. ..	200.9	185.4	56.0	39.6	26.9	11.6	1.0	521.4
1956-57.. ..	219.4	195.5	62.7	42.7	28.6	12.6	1.2	562.7
1955-56—								
February ..	187.1	184.0	50.9	39.8	27.8	10.9	1.0	501.5
March ..	199.7	191.1	54.5	41.4	26.8	12.2	1.2	526.9
April ..	201.2	190.2	52.0	38.4	27.0	12.6	1.0	522.4
May ..	218.0	199.2	58.3	43.1	28.2	13.5	1.1	561.4
June ..	203.8	181.0	60.9	40.4	25.4	12.7	1.1	525.3
1956-57—								
July ..	214.6	185.0	61.9	40.5	26.4	12.3	1.0	541.7
August ..	189.0	165.1	55.5	35.5	24.9	11.1	1.0	482.1
September ..	201.0	183.5	59.3	39.9	29.3	12.0	1.1	526.1
October ..	221.8	192.3	63.3	42.0	29.2	12.4	1.2	562.2
November ..	226.1	194.2	65.5	42.8	29.2	12.4	1.0	571.2
December ..	231.7	202.8	65.2	45.5	28.9	14.3	1.2	589.6
January ..	202.3	188.0	60.4	38.2	30.0	10.7	1.4	531.0
February ..	224.7	206.2	66.2	48.7	30.7	13.0	1.2	590.7
March ..	233.5	207.1	63.6	46.5	30.5	14.4	1.5	597.1
April ..	232.2	210.4	63.8	46.0	27.4	12.8	1.3	593.9
May ..	229.8	214.6	64.2	44.9	29.0	13.3	1.4	597.2
June ..	234.5	201.7	65.9	44.3	27.6	13.4	1.4	588.8
1957-58—								
July ..	235.9	204.5	70.9	46.5	28.5	12.8	1.6	600.7
August ..	205.8	184.0	60.2	38.7	26.3	11.2	1.3	527.5
September ..	227.4	196.6	67.3	43.1	29.6	11.8	1.2	577.0
October ..	233.6	210.5	69.2	44.1	32.4	12.0	1.5	603.3
November ..	237.9	212.5	66.4	45.6	31.9	12.6	1.4	608.3
December ..	253.9	242.8	72.5	48.8	32.7	15.3	1.5	667.5
January ..	200.6	173.5	57.1	39.1	30.7	10.5	1.2	512.7
February ..	232.6	201.9	61.7	45.9	31.2	12.8	1.5	587.6

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. Includes in addition to the banks included in series on page 54, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded for March, 1955 and subsequent months.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS.

(£ million.)

At end of—	Amounts on Deposit in Savings Banks.								
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
1936-37 ..	82.0	75.7	27.3	26.5	11.8	7.2	0.1	0.3	230.9
1937-38 ..	86.0	78.9	28.2	27.2	12.0	7.7	0.1	0.3	240.4
1938-39 ..	87.5	80.5	29.0	27.4	12.4	8.4	0.1	0.3	245.6
1950-51 ..	284.5	281.8	98.8	97.8	44.7	27.1	1.0	1.7	837.4
1951-52 ..	304.5	300.8	102.7	103.7	47.2	30.1	1.1	1.8	891.9
1952-53 ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	947.5
1953-54 ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	1,010.1
1954-55 ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	1,073.4
1955-56 ..	386.6	386.2	132.7	135.7	57.9	37.2	1.7	3.0	1,141.0
1956-57 ..	422.2	411.6	144.6	142.4	62.7	38.7	1.9	3.3	1,227.4
1955-56—									
February	371.2	373.5	128.2	132.9	55.0	36.6	1.5	2.8	1,101.7
March	374.3	375.3	129.1	133.1	55.4	36.5	1.6	2.8	1,108.1
April ..	375.5	375.8	128.9	132.9	55.8	36.7	1.6	2.9	1,110.1
May ..	376.6	376.9	128.8	132.3	56.1	36.6	1.6	3.0	1,111.9
June ..	386.6	386.2	132.7	135.7	57.9	37.2	1.7	3.0	^a 1,141.0
1956-57—									
July ..	390.2	388.3	134.1	136.7	58.6	37.6	1.7	3.0	1,150.2
August	394.6	392.7	135.9	137.2	59.6	38.3	1.8	3.0	1,163.1
September	399.5	396.3	137.9	137.7	60.5	38.5	1.8	3.1	1,175.3
October	403.1	398.9	139.4	138.2	61.0	38.5	1.8	3.1	1,184.0
November	405.4	401.6	140.5	138.6	61.4	38.4	1.8	3.2	1,190.9
December	406.0	400.4	140.8	137.6	61.1	38.2	1.7	3.1	1,188.9
January	408.0	400.4	140.1	137.6	61.0	38.3	1.8	3.1	1,190.3
February	411.9	402.7	140.6	138.8	61.2	38.6	1.8	3.1	1,198.7
March	412.3	402.2	140.4	138.5	61.1	38.5	1.8	3.2	1,198.0
April ..	411.2	400.6	140.4	138.3	61.0	38.4	1.8	3.2	1,194.9
May ..	413.1	402.8	141.3	138.7	61.3	38.5	1.8	3.3	1,200.8
June ..	422.2	411.6	144.6	142.4	62.7	38.7	1.9	3.3	^a 1,227.4
1957-58—									
July ..	424.9	412.9	146.5	143.2	63.0	39.2	2.0	3.4	1,235.1
August	429.1	416.9	148.7	143.9	63.8	39.9	2.0	3.4	1,247.7
September	430.9	418.0	150.1	144.2	64.1	39.8	2.1	3.5	1,252.7
October	436.0	422.0	152.1	146.1	65.1	40.0	2.1	3.5	1,266.9
November	436.2	423.2	152.0	146.2	65.1	39.8	2.1	3.6	1,268.2
December	437.1	423.0	151.4	145.7	64.9	39.6	2.0	3.6	1,267.3
January	439.0	423.3	150.6	146.4	64.8	39.7	2.0	3.7	1,269.5
February	439.7	423.2	150.0	146.3	64.6	39.9	2.0	3.7	1,269.4

(a) Interest added 1955-56, £23.3m.; 1956-57, £29.1m. The major part of this interest was added in June each year.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.(a)

Period.	New Policies Issued.(b)				Premiums.(c)		Claims, etc., Paid.(d)		New Loans Granted. (e)
	Ordinary Department.		Industrial Department.		Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	
	Number.	Sum Assured.	Number.	Sum Assured.					
		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—									
1937	12,296	4,120	36,148	1,684	1,045	474	747	223	n.a.
1938	11,470	3,867	32,757	1,530	1,075	617	781	246	n.a.
1939	11,293	3,886	32,125	1,545	1,144	541	835	303	n.a.
1950-51.. ..	21,642	15,206	22,713	2,423	3,210	1,043	1,310	491	3,893
1951-52.. ..	23,607	18,464	23,216	2,817	3,651	1,102	1,441	546	3,963
1952-53.. ..	23,643	18,828	22,853	2,946	4,186	1,147	1,576	619	3,011
1953-54.. ..	23,709	21,177	19,964	2,714	4,679	1,172	1,763	670	2,872
1954-55.. ..	23,505	24,365	18,415	2,734	5,175	1,218	1,983	738	4,319
1955-56.. ..	24,796	27,893	17,551	2,721	5,785	1,228	2,263	793	4,744
1956-57.. ..	24,328	32,683	17,526	2,761	6,454	1,248	2,470	841	4,992
Monthly Total—									
1955-56—									
January	13,527	14,085	3,568	507	4,786	641	1,619	595	3,518
February	20,759	20,434	16,586	2,495	4,990	1,229	2,250	769	4,376
March	24,048	24,706	19,946	3,059	5,440	1,296	2,196	840	5,044
April	22,109	22,613	18,158	2,736	5,886	1,225	2,072	737	3,935
May	24,309	30,292	18,499	2,870	6,686	1,280	2,484	884	4,292
June	25,121	28,997	19,019	2,952	7,168	1,324	2,596	855	5,338
1956-57—									
July	24,612	31,567	20,260	3,211	6,846	1,203	2,674	912	5,796
August	26,391	31,273	20,595	3,233	6,257	1,284	2,627	953	4,724
September	32,415	38,409	24,957	3,897	6,371	1,242	2,432	840	4,746
October	22,802	30,266	16,139	2,484	6,223	1,265	2,651	907	4,517
November	25,701	32,053	18,673	2,974	6,006	1,429	2,381	852	5,931
December	27,565	54,543	14,746	2,557	6,209	1,480	2,343	669	5,643
January	13,445	17,087	5,383	801	5,734	756	2,118	644	3,400
February	19,066	26,103	16,373	2,523	5,780	1,235	2,328	775	3,609
March	25,291	31,747	18,375	2,866	6,282	1,245	2,606	858	5,698
April	21,986	27,805	18,850	2,936	6,450	1,254	2,389	832	5,085
May	25,644	34,790	17,023	2,653	7,323	1,274	2,665	963	5,525
June	27,024	36,554	18,934	3,003	7,971	1,306	2,427	887	5,231
1957-58—									
July	28,518	46,239	19,963	3,239	7,997	1,305	2,954	1,089	5,030
August	28,179	37,205	21,061	3,345	6,922	1,271	2,931	1,113	4,504
September	31,917	40,560	23,220	3,673	7,187	1,329	2,852	925	4,476
October	26,766	35,415	17,797	2,865	7,154	1,351	2,725	937	5,700
November	25,551	42,114	17,213	2,887	6,459	1,349	2,732	994	4,969
December	30,099	60,574	14,981	2,696	7,658	1,448	3,119	764	6,507
January	12,356	15,181	5,094	767	6,091	796	2,161	689	3,258

(a) Excludes business of the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office which operate only in New South Wales and Queensland respectively. Monthly averages for the years 1937 to 1947 are based on annual returns for the financial years of the companies. From 1947-48 the figures have been compiled from monthly returns.
 (b) Excludes annuity policies. (c) Includes consideration for annuities. (d) Includes claims paid on death or maturity, payments made on surrender of policies, annuities and bonuses paid in cash. (e) Excludes advances of premiums.

For meaning of symbols n.a., ———, see page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES, GOLD PRICES AND SECURITY YIELDS.

Period.	Exchange Rates.(a)			Gold Prices.(a)		Commonwealth Government Securities taxed at Current Commonwealth Rates.		Private First Mortgages Registered in New South Wales.
	Australia on London.(b)	London on New York. (b)	Australia on New York. (c)	Australia.	London.	Short Dated 2 years.(d)	Long Dated 12 years.(d)	
	£A. per £100 Stg.	\$ per £Stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£Stg. per fine oz.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1936-37 ..	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.781	7.041	(f) 3.57	(g) 3.94	(h)5.3
1937-38 ..	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001	(f) 3.30	(g) 3.71	(h)5.3
1938-39 ..	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340	(f) 3.67	(g) 3.84	(i)5.4
1950-51 ..	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400	1.99	3.21	(i) 4.4
1951-52 ..	125.25	2.796	2.224	15.492	12.400	2.05	3.95	4.4
1952-53 ..	125.25	2.804	2.231	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.54	4.7
1953-54 ..	125.25	2.813	2.238	15.514	12.411	3.10	4.44	4.9
1954-55 ..	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.536	3.49	4.50	5.2
1955-56 ..	125.25	2.795	2.228	15.625	12.496	4.39	4.76	5.8
1956-57 ..	125.25	2.789	2.220	15.625	12.532	4.71	5.06	6.5
1955-56—								(i) (j)
February ..	125.25	2.807	2.233	15.625	12.466	4.26	4.57	5.8
March ..	125.25	2.805	2.233	15.625	12.472	4.68	5.12	5.9
April ..	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.460	4.97	5.18	5.9
May ..	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.461	5.02	5.19	6.0
June ..	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.437	5.13	5.34	6.1
1956-57—								
July ..	125.25	2.794	2.224	15.625	12.528	4.68	5.15	6.2
August ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.581	4.70	5.05	6.3
September ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.579	4.99	5.04	6.4
October ..	125.25	2.785	2.216	15.625	12.575	4.68	5.05	6.5
November ..	125.25	2.783	2.214	15.625	12.569	4.60	5.07	6.6
December ..	125.25	2.785	2.216	15.625	12.532	4.69	5.09	6.6
January ..	125.25	2.796	2.225	15.625	12.479	4.68	5.04	6.6
February ..	125.25	2.798	2.227	15.625	12.469	4.70	5.05	6.6
March ..	125.25	2.793	2.223	15.625	12.499	4.70	5.03	6.6
April ..	125.25	2.789	2.219	15.625	12.520	4.77	5.06	6.6
May ..	125.25	2.791	2.221	15.625	12.516	4.70	5.05	6.7
June ..	125.25	2.790	2.221	15.625	12.539	4.62	5.04	6.7
1957-58—								
July ..	125.25	2.788	2.219	15.625	12.551	4.48	5.02	6.8
August ..	125.25	2.783	2.215	15.625	12.565	4.51	5.01	6.9
September ..	125.25	2.785	2.216	15.625	12.552	4.44	4.98	6.9
October ..	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.625	12.492	4.36	5.00	6.9
November ..	125.25	2.803	2.230	15.625	12.479	4.43	5.00	6.9
December ..	125.25	2.802	2.233	15.625	12.469	4.41	5.00	6.9
January ..	125.25	2.813	2.246	15.625	12.445	4.40	5.01	7.0
February ..	125.25	2.816	2.255	15.625	12.458	4.38	5.01	

(a) Average of daily quotations. (b) Average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers. (c) Selling rate. Direct quotation. (d) Rates for securities maturing in 2 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0-5, and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (e) Weighted average twelve months. (f) Under 5 years taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (g) Ten years and over taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (h) Urban securities only. (i) Rural and urban securities. (j) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.

INTEREST RATES.

(Per Cent. per Annum.)

Date of Change in Rate.	Trading Banks—						Common-wealth Savings Bank Deposits (Maximum Rate).	Treasury Bills (Discount Rate).	Common-wealth Loans (Long Term).
	Fixed Deposits—				Overdrafts (Maximum Rate).				
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Common-wealth Trading Bank.(a)	Private Trading Banks.			
1940—1st March ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25	} (b) {	2.00	1.75	3.625
28th May ..	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250
1941—22nd Sept. ..	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250
1942—14th March ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.50	3.250
1943—1st May ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250
1944—17th January..	1.00	1.25	1.50	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250
11th August ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.25	3.250
1945—1st March ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250
1st December	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250
1946—20th November	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.125
1947—1st January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	1.00	3.125
1949—1st May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.125
1951—21st August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.750
1952—29th July ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	3.750
25th November	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	4.500
1955—1st January ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500
1956—15th March ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500
1st April ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	4.500
10th May ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	5.000
4th December	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.50	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	5.000

(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Rates for Private Trading Banks not published, but predominant rates between 1936 and 1940 were 5.25 per cent. to 5.50 per cent. On 1st July, 1940, rates in excess of 5.25 per cent. were reduced by 0.25 per cent. and on 1st January, 1942, there was a further reduction of 0.125 per cent. (c) 1 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (d) 1.50 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (e) Average rate on all advances not to exceed 5½ per cent.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT REDEEMABLE IN AUSTRALIA.(a)

(£'000.)

Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.	Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.
30th June—				1956—57—			
1937 ..	..	46,408	46,408	30th Sept. ..	210,000	3,000	213,000
1938 ..	..	46,598	46,598	31st Oct. ..	240,000	3,000	243,000
1939 ..	..	50,228	50,228	30th Nov. ..	255,000	11,000	266,000
1950 ..	108,280	..	108,280	31st Dec. ..	270,000	14,000	284,000
1951 ..	108,280	2,400	110,680	31st Jan. ..	260,000	14,000	274,000
1952 ..	153,280	..	153,280	28th Feb. ..	270,000	14,000	284,000
1953 ..	225,000	..	225,000	31st Mar. ..	260,000	12,000	272,000
1954 ..	190,000	..	190,000	30th April ..	190,000	12,000	202,000
1955 ..	160,000	..	160,000	31st May ..	147,000	9,000	156,000
1956 ..	165,000	..	165,000	30th June ..	150,000	..	150,000
1957 ..	150,000	..	150,000				
1955—56—				1957—58—			
31st Mar. ..	280,000	6,400	286,400	31st July ..	139,000	3,000	142,000
30th April ..	220,000	5,900	225,900	31st August	160,000	3,000	163,000
31st May ..	180,000	3,900	183,900	30th Sept. ..	185,000	3,000	188,000
30th June ..	165,000	..	165,000	31st Oct. ..	216,000	3,000	219,000
1956—57—				30th Nov. ..	228,000	5,000	233,000
31st July ..	155,000	2,250	157,250	31st Dec. ..	251,000	8,500	259,500
31st August	190,000	3,000	193,000	31st Jan. ..	249,000	8,500	257,500
				28th Feb. ..	248,000	8,500	256,500

(a) Excludes overdrafts and Internal Treasury Bills.
For meaning of symbol ... see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FINANCE.(a)

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUNDS.

(£ million.)

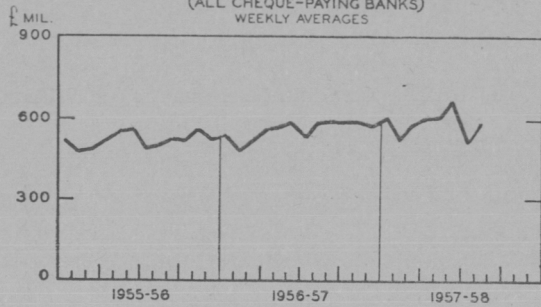
Period.	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Common-wealth.	Grand Total.(a)
REVENUE.									
1938-39	51.1	27.0	19.3	12.3	11.0	3.6	124.3	95.1	209.6
1951-52	168.9	81.7	55.7	37.5	34.0	10.5	388.3	1,016.8	1,256.1
1952-53	182.8	97.0	63.2	44.2	38.7	12.1	438.0	1,040.1	1,305.8
1953-54	188.7	106.7	69.7	48.4	43.6	13.3	470.4	1,022.8	1,314.3
1954-55	195.4	116.8	73.8	48.7	46.1	14.5	495.3	1,067.4	1,378.5
1955-56	204.4	123.1	75.7	55.4	49.6	17.8	526.0	1,138.4	1,466.7
1956-57	225.0	133.2	85.2	61.6	54.3	18.8	578.1	1,311.8	1,674.3
1957-58 (Estimate) ..	232.4	141.5	88.4	66.8	55.9	20.0	605.0	1,331.0	1,703.2
1955-56—									
July—December ..	93.4	51.1	35.6	23.8	22.8	7.6	234.3	426.5	578.0
—January ..	108.4	59.4	40.9	28.9	26.9	8.8	273.3	507.6	684.2
—February ..	123.1	68.1	45.9	33.4	31.0	10.0	311.5	588.4	788.8
1956-57—									
July—December ..	100.0	54.1	39.6	27.1	24.8	8.4	254.0	445.8	609.3
—January ..	116.2	63.5	46.4	33.1	29.5	9.8	298.5	546.1	739.1
—February ..	133.7	72.8	52.5	37.8	33.5	10.9	341.2	639.2	859.8
1957-58—									
July—December ..	103.8	58.6	41.4	30.3	25.8	8.0	267.9	471.1	641.2
—January ..	120.6	67.6	47.8	36.2	30.7	9.7	312.6	569.8	768.5
—February ..	137.0		53.4	41.3	35.0	11.8		673.2	

EXPENDITURE.

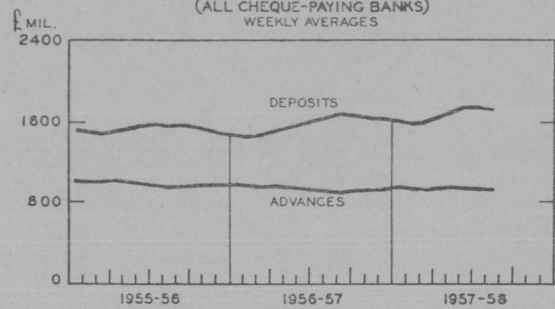
1938-39	53.6	27.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	3.6	128.2	95.1	213.5
1951-52	168.8	84.1	55.7	37.5	34.5	10.9	391.5	1,016.8	1,259.3
1952-53	182.7	97.4	63.0	44.2	39.2	11.8	438.3	1,040.1	1,306.1
1953-54	188.6	106.0	69.3	46.6	43.7	13.3	467.5	1,022.8	1,311.4
1954-55	197.6	115.5	73.6	50.9	46.6	14.7	498.9	1,067.4	1,382.1
1955-56	211.2	126.4	77.4	56.8	51.4	17.7	540.9	1,138.4	1,481.6
1956-57	224.9	137.6	85.2	61.6	56.2	19.6	585.1	1,311.8	1,681.3
1957-58 (Estimate) ..	232.3	145.0	90.0	67.3	58.6	21.1	614.3	1,331.0	1,712.5
1955-56—									
July—December ..	101.2	60.2	38.6	27.8	25.6	8.8	262.2	504.7	684.1
—January ..	115.4	67.9	43.8	31.7	29.4	9.4	297.6	580.2	786.1
—February ..	132.4	77.2	49.9	36.2	33.6	10.9	340.2	662.2	891.3
1956-57—									
July—December ..	108.0	65.4	43.8	30.0	28.4	9.5	285.1	535.7	730.3
—January ..	124.3	74.5	49.3	34.4	33.0	10.7	326.2	623.8	844.5
—February ..	142.1	84.9	55.6	39.2	37.4	12.3	371.5	709.0	959.9
1957-58—									
July—December ..	110.5	69.5	46.1	31.7	29.2	10.1	297.1	566.6	765.9
—January ..	127.8	78.6	51.5	37.2	34.1	11.3	340.5	668.3	894.9
—February ..	145.2		57.9	42.0	38.6	13.6		756.6	

(a) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals have been adjusted to exclude State payments to the Commonwealth in respect of payroll tax and Commonwealth payments to the States included in State Consolidated Revenue Funds in respect of the interest on State debts, special grants, uniform taxation, special financial assistance, grants to universities, tuberculosis capital expenditure and National Welfare Fund payments. There are other relatively minor payments for which adjustments have not been made and the adjusted figures are therefore still slightly overstated. (b) Represents the combined transactions of the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the Business Undertakings—Railways, Tramways and Omnibuses and Sydney Harbour Trust Section of the Maritime Services Board—included in the annual Budget Papers. Adjustments have been made to exclude duplications.

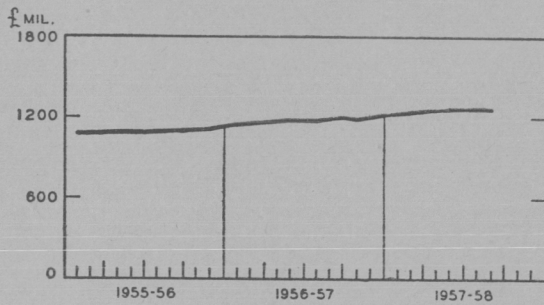
BANK DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



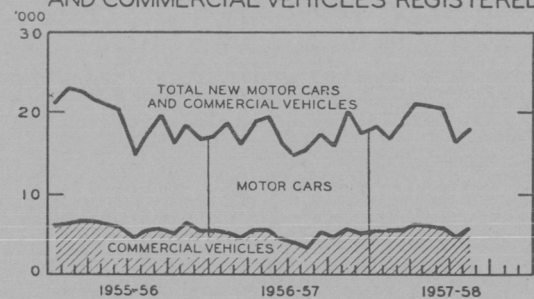
DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



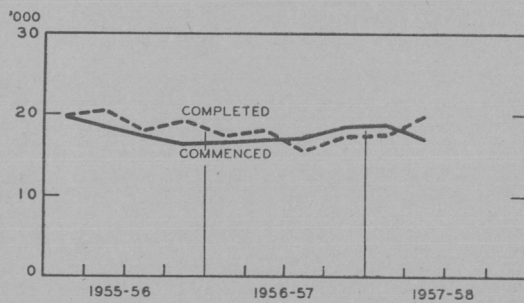
SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS



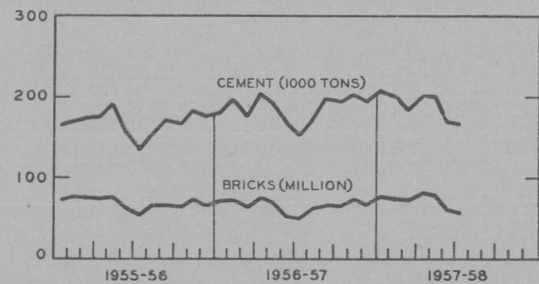
NEW MOTOR CARS
AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES REGISTERED



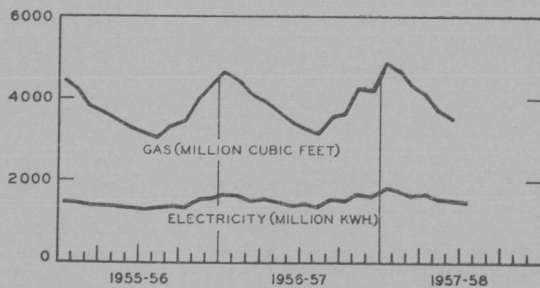
NEW HOUSES AND FLATS



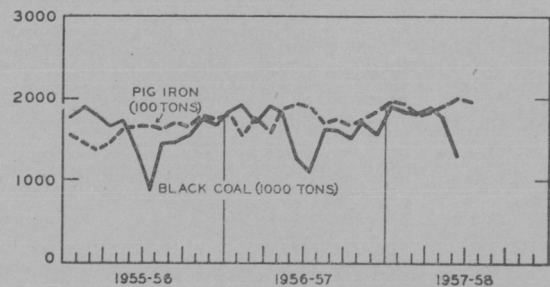
PRODUCTION OF BRICKS AND CEMENT



PRODUCTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY



PRODUCTION OF BLACK COAL AND PIG IRON



BUREAU PUBLICATIONS SINCE PREVIOUS ISSUE.

- Mar. 14. *Pocket Compendium of Australian Statistics : No. 43, 1958.
 " 18. Road Traffic Accidents Statistics : June Quarter, 1957.
 " 18. Fire, Marine and General Insurance Statistics : Annual Bulletin No. 5, 1956-57.
 " 19. *Census 30th June, 1954, Volume VII.—Territories—
 Part I.—Northern Territory : Population.
 Part II.—Northern Territory : Dwellings and Householders.
 " 20. Statistical Bulletin : Rural Land Use and Crop Statistics No. 13 : 1956-57.
 " 20. *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics No. 229 : September, 1957.
 " 20. Statistical Bulletin : Bee Farming 1956-57.
 " 21. Labour Turnover : September, 1957.
 " 24. Monthly Bulletin of Production Statistics No. 112 : March, 1958.
 " 25. *Primary Industries Part I.—Rural Industries : Bulletin No. 50, 1955-56.
 " 26. Registrations of New Motor Vehicles (Preliminary) : February, 1958.
 " 26. *Labour Report No. 44 : 1955 and 1956.
 " 26. Life Assurance Statistics : Bulletin No. 131 : Month and Year ended December, 1957.
 " 27. Statistical Bulletin : The Dairying Industry, Vol. 20, No. 14 : Year. ended December, 1957.
 " 27. Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics No. 194 : January, 1958.
 " 28. *Secondary Industries : Bulletin No. 50, 1955-56.
 " 31. Monthly Bulletin of Oversea Trade Statistics : January, 1958.
 " 31. Statistical Bulletin : The Dairying Industry : January, 1958.
 " 31. Exports of Wool (Australian Produce) : Eight Months ended February, 1958.
 Apr. 2. Monthly Review of Business Statistics : January, 1958.
 " 2. Demographic Review No. 85 : Births, Year 1956.
 " 2. Quarterly Bulletin of Building Statistics No. 40 : December Quarter, 1957.
 " 4. Banking Statistics : Monthly Bulletin No. 50 (Preliminary) : February, 1958.
 " 4. Savings Bank Statistics : Monthly Bulletin No. 128 : February, 1958.
 " 4. Hire Purchase Operations of Finance Businesses in Australia for goods sold by Retail : January, 1958 (Preliminary).
 " 9. Monthly Bulletin of Life Assurance Statistics No. 132 : January, 1958.
 " 9. Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index : February, 1958.
 " 9. Oversea Trade (Preliminary) : March, 1958.
 " 10. Monthly Index of Export Prices : February, 1958.
 " 11. Demographic Review No. 86 : Oversea Arrivals and Departures : Quarter and Nine Months ended September, 1957.
 " 14. Monthly Bulletin No. 80 : Registrations of New Motor Vehicles : February, 1958.
 " 14. *Primary Industries Bulletin No. 50 : Part II. Non-rural Industries and Value of Production, 1955-56.
 " 15. Statistical Bulletin : Tractors on Rural Holdings : March, 1957.
 " 15. Hire Purchase Operations of Finance Businesses in Australia for goods sold by Retail : February, 1958 (Preliminary).
 " 16. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : January, 1958.
 " 18. The "C" Series Retail Price Index : March Quarter, 1958.
 " 22. Retail Sales of Goods : December Quarter, 1957.
 " 23. Registrations of New Motor Vehicles : March, 1958 (Preliminary).
 " 24. Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics No. 195 : February, 1958.
 " 24. Interim Retail Price Index : March Quarter, 1958.
 " 24. The Australian Balance of Payments : 1955-56, 1956-57 and First Half of 1957-58.
 " 29. Demographic Review No. 87 : Population and Vitals : December Quarter, 1957.
 " 29. Statistical Bulletin : The Wheat Industry : No. 93, April, 1958.
 " 29. Statistical Bulletin : Vegetables grown on farms for Human Consumption : No. 11, 1956-57.

NOTE.—The publications marked * are printed publications which are obtainable by purchase from the Government Printer, Canberra, or the Commonwealth Sub-Treasury in each capital city. They may also be ordered through the leading booksellers in the principal cities of Australia. Other publications listed above, including the Monthly Review of Business Statistics, are not issued for sale, but a limited number of copies are available free upon request from the Commonwealth Statistician, Canberra, Australia.